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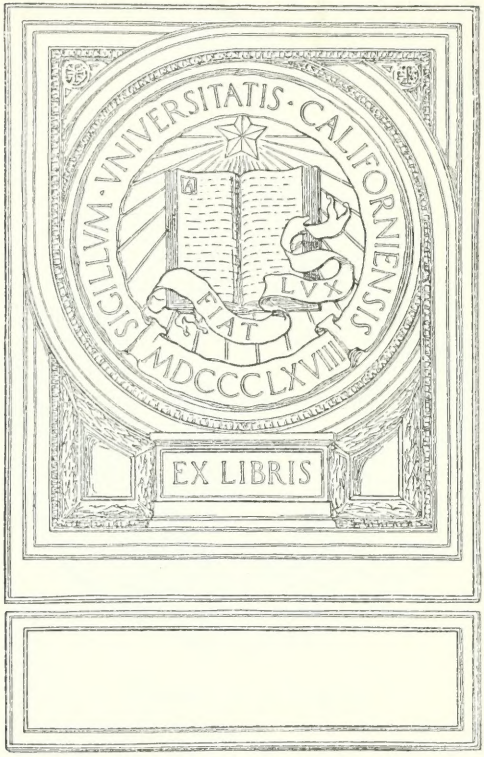

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COLLECTIONS

OF THE

MAINE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SECOND SERIES

DOCUMENTARY

HISTORY OF THE STATE OF MAINE

VOL. XIX

CONTAINING

THE BAXTER MANUSCRIPTS

EDITED

BY JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER, A. M., LITT. D.

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PREFACE

THIS volume, even more than the preceding, discloses the depredations to which the scattered coast settlements of Maine were subjected during the long war of the Revolution. With a coast line too long for the Massachusetts Government to adequately protect, the more remote communities were ever exposed to extinction, hence their persistent, and almost futile cries, for assistance. As we read there always seems to be a chronic state of inefficiency on the part of the Massachusetts Government, and we can but suspect that some of those whose names shine on the roll of fame as patriots, have been overestimated; indeed, we know that then as now, there were men in control of important government positions, who regarded their public duties with a more languid interest than they did their political honors.

We should, however, keep in mind the fact that through the entire war, those at the head of affairs in Boston were always at their wits end to obtain supplies necessary to maintain a defensive position, and were continually appealing to the General Government for help. It was fortunate for us that the offensive operations of the enemy were managed with such evident inefficiency; had they not been, our history would have worn another aspect.

JAMES PHINNEY BAXTER.

Mackworth Island.
July 26, 1914.

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DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF THE

STATE OF MAINE

Representation of Col° Brewer.

To the Honorable Council of the State of Massachusetts Bay

The Representation of Col° Josiah Brewer Truck Master of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, Humbly sheweth That he hath accompanied the Indians now in Town to Newport where they have been politely entertained & are very well satisfied with their reception there — That they are now in this Town & are desirous of Returning home — upon requesting me to take the Charge of such things as your honors may se fit to grant upon thier late Petition — That your Petitioner would pray your honors to give an Order that the said Indians & thier Interpreter may receive ten Days provisions in order to enable them to return & likewise give an Order for the Discharge of the Account of John Marsh their Interpreter who was employed for that purpose by General Wadsworth — or otherwise to give such orders respecting them as your Honors may see proper

Josiah Brewer

Boston Octr 24th 1780

State of Mass^tts Bay

Council Chamber Octr 24^t 1780

Read & Ordered — That the Commissary General of this State be and hereby is directed to deliver Col° Josiah Brewer for the Use of Six Indians with their Interpreter lately arrived from Penobscot ten Days Provisions to enable them

to return to their respective Homes — and Charge the Same to the Acc^{t} of the United States —

Attest John Avery D Secy

To his Excellency the Governor & To the Hon^{l} General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Memorial of Col^{o} Josiah Brewer Humbly shews,

That some few days since (upon the Indians now in this Town Return from Rhode Island) he was ordered by the Hon^{l} Council to send them off, as soon as possible — the wind hitherto has prevented there going that the French Consul hath given them encouragement that they may have a priest to go with them provided they tarry some days, they are therefore very desirous of tarrying till the priest can have your Honors Orders to go down with them — Your Memorialist therefore prays your Honors to give him such Directions Respecting the said Indians as your Honors shall see fit and likewise to give order that the Priest may be permitted to go & proper provision made for him and as in Duty bound will ever pray

Josiah Brewer Truck Master

Petition of James Cargill.

October 25. 1780

To the Honourable the Senate and the Honble the House of Representatives In General Court Assembled.

The Humble Petition of James Cargill of Newcastle Most humbly Sheweth —

That having applyed to the General Court under the late Constitution for Releif in a Controversy he has for several years past had relative to the Sloop Nancy he took in the Service of the Enemy, and notwithstanding the publick Faith of this Commonwealth, on which your petitioner relyed, after

she was legally condemned in the Court of Admiralty appointed & constituted by this State, & became the property of your petitioner yet was recovered from him to his great Damage and Loss, and your Petitioner is finally ruined, and his Family, as all his Estate is Seized, (and he is by this means greatly involved in Debt unless this Honble Court will please to take cognizance of his unhappy & distressed circumstances; Your Petitioner has been at a very great Expence in Sollicitting this affair, yet he humbly hopes this Honble Court will exercise that Compassion due to his Case, as it is Singular, and grant him the Liberty of pleading his cause before the Honble Senate, and the Honble House, as he has such reasons & arguments to lay before them as he judges will be Sufficient to induce them to grant him that relief his most distressed Circumstances call for, consistent with their wisdom and Justice.— And your Petitioner as in Duty bound &c

James Cargill

N. B. The papers relating to the above Caption are in the Secretary's Office.

Permit in re Sloop Nancy.

To the Respective Commanders of his Majestys Ships and Vessels at Boston

[Seal] By Saml Graves Esqr Vice Admiral of the White &c—

Permit the Sloop Nancy, Peleg Crooker Master, with three hands, to go out of the Harbour, with Leave to carry One barrel rum, One Barrel of Molasses, one hogshead of Salt, and Thirty bushels of Corn, and to return with Fuel &c for his Majestys Service. This pass to remain with the Vessell 'till she returns.—

Dated at Boston the 20th July 1775,

Saml Graves

Petition Selectmen of Boothbay.

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts — We the Selectmen of the Township of Boothbay beg leve to Represent to Your Honours the confused & Eregular manner in which the Towns papers be at present on account of the Shift of Officers last March meeting, in perticuler the Treasurer. We cannot find any regularity in the Treasurers Books, no proper Settlement from the begening to Eand of it and the former Treasurer after a Lawfull Demand of him to Deliver up the Receipts & other papers in his hand belonging to the Town has absolutely Refus'd: which ocations Grate inconveniences for which Reason we wou'd beg Your Honour to take the matter into your wise consideration & if your Honours Should think proper we would beg that you would Grant or appoint a Committee in Sum of the Neighbouring Towns to inquire into this matter and see that there is a proper Settlement of our Towns Accounts. We wou'd likewise Represent to your Honours the obstinasy of our Militia Officers in this Town, they have taken Severel Fines from men that they Draughted & cou'd not go into the Sarvis, & have never accounted with the Treasurer for one farthing Since the war which seems to us to be very unjust we wou'd beg therefore that if your Honours Shou'd appoint a Committee as above, that they may be Impowered & Directed to call the Militi Officers to account Respecting the fines & see that a proper settlement is made. we would likewise represent to Your Honours the Grate Inconveniance of having two Companys of Militi in this Little poor Town where there is not more than one Company of able Bodyed men, having so meny Officers Screen'd from Draughts comes very Heavy on the Remander, we would therefore beg if Your Honours think proper, to bring the Militi in this Town into one Company

Hoping Your Honours will Grant this our most Ernest petition We are Your Honours most Obedient and most Humble Servants

Benj[a] Sawyer
John Alley
} Major part of the Selectmen of Boothbay

Boothbay October 25th 1780

Genl. Wadsworth to President of Council.

Honble James Bowdoin Esq[r] President of Council

Head Quarters Thomaston 26th Oct[r] 1780

Dear Sir

The Bearer M[r] Pelatiah Freeman is one of our good Friends, who has lately fled from the Oppression of the Britains at Bagaduce & left his Family behind him. If you Could procure a passage for them in the first Cartel that Goes from Boston to that Place, I should acknowledge it as a particular Favour done to, D[r] Sir Your most humble Serv[t]

P. Wadsworth B G

Major John Hopkins

Sir

at the Request of Peletiah Freeman would inform your Exelency that he was Born and Lived in York till he moved to Penobscutt and I Never heard as I Remember but he has Been a friend to the united States

Your Exellency[s] most obd[t] and very Humb[le] Serv[t]

Edw[d] Grow

His Exellency John Hancock Esq[r]

Boston Nov[r] 9th 1780

Petition of Reed & Kent.

To the Hon^{bl} Senate & House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Octr 30th 1780

The Petition of Andrew Reed & Benjamin Kent Both of Boothbay Humbly Sheweth, that one of your Petitioners Andrew Reed, being a Commission'd officer On the late unsuccessful expedition to Bagwaduce was after our Retreat from thence to Boothbay, Ordered by General Lovell to impress some Whale Boats;—in obedience to his orders Kents boat was, impressed one Whale boat. the property of Benjamin Kent your other petitioner, an inhabitant of Said Boothbay, which boat was employ^{d} at the direction of General Lovell. and not since returned to the owner who is in great need of her tho both duty & enclination Commands every Effort in the power of your petitioners to Serve the great Cause of Amarica yet presume your Honors Cannot intend individuals Should lose what was for the public Service therefore prays your Said petitioners may have a boat of equal value, which when taken away with Road Sails & appurtainances was worth one hundred & fifty pounds, hoping your Honors will take the matter into your Serious Considderation and grant such redress as your wisdom shall dictate, as to fall of Currency Since, and the Want of a fishing boat to a needy distress^{d} family and your Petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever pray.

Andr^{w} Reed Benjamin Kent

Petition of Penobscot Chiefs.

To His Excellency the Governor, and Honorable Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—

The Petition of Orina and others Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians — Humbly sheweth, ¶ That by reason of Enemys possessing of Penobscot they have been put to the greatest Difficultys — they Unfortunately having four of their Brothers killed by them who left large families for the Tribe to support who are unable to support themselves by Reason of their having been drove from their settlement by the Enemy — which makes them at present very poor — the Enemy have Offerd them large presents to come & join them but they have declined in hopes that their Brothers the Americans would provide for them — & fulfill the promises which Gen[l] Lovell made them viz[t] that they should have the same Supplys which those have at Machias — & likewise that something should be done for the Widows of those who fell in Battle with the Enemy who are extremely poor that those Indians at Machias are frequently receiving presents at the public Cost while those of the Penobscot Tribe have not rec[d] any — that the said Indians were allow[d] to draw provisions for a Considerable time at free Cost and likewise had their Wives & Children Cloathed at the Cost of the public —

They would therefore represent to your Honors whom they look upon as their fathers that the Winter is now Coming on that they have not had the advantage of hardly any trade this Summer they would therefore Most humbly pray your Honors to give orders that the Truck House at Fort Halifax may be supplied with such Articles as Col° Brewer shall give a List of, and likewise that You would order Col° Brewer to make them such presents for the support of themselves & the Poor of the Tribe as your Generosity shall Dictate — they would likewise Represent & beg your Honors to Continue Col° Brewer Truck Master at Fort Halifax and as in Duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Orina

Chief of the Penobscot Tribe in behalf of himself and others

This may Certify that the foregoing was taken from the Mouth of Orina the Chiefs — and is the meaning of what he desired may be wrote

John Marsh Sworn Interpreter

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Octr 30: 1780

Ordered that Mr Barrett & Brig^{r} Frost be a Committee with such as the Hon. Senate shall join to take into Consideration the Petition of Josiah Brewer Truck-master at Fort Halifax & Orina & other Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians

Sent up for Concurrence Caleb Davis Speak^{r}

In Senate Octr 30th 1780

T Cushing President

Read & Concurred and Jedidiah Prebble Esqr is joined

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Oct^{o} 30, 1780

The Committee of both Houses on the Petition of Orana, a Chief of the Penobscot Tribe & others, and also the Petition of Col^{o} Josiah Brewer, Truck Master at Fort Halifax — Report — that — There are now in Town of the Penobscot Tribe, one Chief vizt the Petition as aforesaid and also — one Son of the Late Cheif *Trench Meser, one Grandson of Orina the first mentioned Cheif — also a Cheif named *Atteor & two of the Indian Council — who have each of them had a Hat a Blanket, a Shirt & one p^{r} of Indian Stockings before they went to Newport presented them by the Government.

The Committee are of Opinion that it would be expedient that the Cheif, Orana, be presented with a Coat a Gun & Ammunition for Defence on his Passage, fire Arms & Ammunition for the rest — with a Pair of Shoes for each —

That it would be also expedient that Provision should be

made for the Accomodation & Subsistance of the Person whom the French Consul has recommended; and also for his support while in that Country

That on Conference had with the Chief aforesaid & the Truck master we are of Opinion that a large Number of the Penobscot Tribe consider themselves as in Actual Service of the United States — holding themselves in Readiness to engage with the People of the Commonwealth against the Enemy on all Occasions — & that the Persons mentioned in the Petition fell in our Cause, leaving their Families to be supported by the public — and that it would conduce to the Public Good, in attatching the Tribe to our Service to make some Provision for the Families of these Persons — That whatever is sent them would be more grateful as a special Mark of Attention, & have a better Effect, if sent in a particular Package & directed to these Families, & to be delivered to them by the Truckmaster — as a Present from the Commonwealth — and that 24 Yards of Strouds 36 Yards of Linnen would be sufficient for that Purpose and one Barrel of Pork & two Barrel of Flour be also sent them by the Truckmaster for their Winter Support —

That one hundred Weight of Powder With a Proportionate Quantity of Ball & Shot & fifty Hatchets be sent to the Fort to be distributed as presents to the Tribe, and also about ten Doz of Jack Knives —

That certain Stores for the Supply of Fort Halifax to continue the Trade with the Indians are necessary — a Schedule of which is exhibited as hereunto annexed, by Col Brewer, which with the Stores now on hand, a Schedule of which is also annexed, will be sufficient untill the month of May next — Which Several Matters are submitted

Jedidiah Preble Chairman

In Senate Oct. 31, 1780

Read & Sent down — Cushing President

Petition of Lucy Rittal.

His Excelency the Governor & the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts Humbly Sheweth

The Petition of Lucy Rittal of Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln That on Sunday the 25th of September 1780 Capt McClelan with a file of men by order of General Wadsworth Esqr (as he said) who then was at the Shore in Kennebeck river, about twenty five miles from the Sea Tooke my husban Francis Rittal from his Large family & out of his house vizt his wife and teen Children, and he often has the asseme to that Degree we think he Cant Lives and Carried him and put him into Close Gaol at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, and There Still he is Confin'd about Sixty miles from me when there was a Gaol within a mile of him, on Tuesday ye 17th of October 1780 I went and with Great Expences and heavy Bonds — Obtained the Liberity of the Yard for him, and one Mr Thomas Towns of Pittstown about teen miles high up Said River, who was Committed with him, and for what, Mr Towns, Neither my husban Nor my selfe Cant Tell, he never Broake any Law of the State that he or I knows of, but always obsarved to Keep all the Laws that come to his Knowledge, Taking the appossels advice and submited to the Powers that be which the People here hath made it their Rule — Our Son Francis Rittal junior between 16 & 17 years old went in the army to Penobscut and behaved well as all that Knew him Said, my husban was also draughted & sent with Prisoners to guard them to Boston we also made Provision for all we Could for those that Came from Penobscut & Returned by way of Kennebeck, & som that was Sick & wounded we entertained there upon free Cost & Carried them to Brunswick about 18 miles out & 18 home 36 in all and always paid our Taxes for hiering men besides what my husban & Son hath don and was peaceable and

Quiet & Studied to mind our own busness and to Get a Comfortable Liveing by our hand Labour and indaustory with our Large family, but this Extradonary affair, and the Loss of the head of the famely, with the heavy Charges attending of it. Going to & from him at 60 miles Distance and Charge there must bring Distruction and a Seperation of our famely, and Cause the Tender Babes to Cry for Bread, which is hard to be Gott here with all prudance and indaustory we Can use, we are Denied the Knowledge of his accusors or Even of the Least fault that my husban is Charged with & he & I are Conscious that he is Guilty of no Breach of Law against the State or any of them therefore I most Humbly pray your Honours to Take our Distressed Circumstances in your wise Consideration and Liberate my husban Francis Rittal from Falmouth Goal & his Bonds 60 miles from his Distressed family or otherwise Releave us as Your Honours in your Great Wisdom Shall think proper and I as in Duty Bound I Shall Ever Pray Lucy Rittal

Pownalborough Octo^{r} 31st 1780

We the Subscribers are Knowing to Great part of the Truth of Said petition therefore most humbly pray — your Honours that Mr Francis Rittal may be Liberated and Return to his Distressed family again & as in Duty Bound etc

Samuel Goodwin	Stephen Mason	Jaque Goud
Samuel Goodwin Jr	George Goud	Christopher Jakin
John Johnson	Abner Mason	George Mayer
Tma Pond	Henry Bickford	Martin Haly
George Stephen	Louis houdlette	Thomas Haly
David × Clancy	Phillip Majer	William Haly
Obadiah Call Junr	Gerge Pocherd	John Haley
Joseph × M^{c}farlan	Joseph Jackson	Jabez Robinson
Sam Mason	William+ pray	Elijah Robinson
Joseph M^{c}farland	Peter Pachard	

Bill of Rights &c

VII Government is instituted for the Common Good; for the Protection, Safety, Prosperity, and happiness of the people; and not for the Profitt, honor or private Interest of any one man, family, or Class of men:

XII N° Subject Shall be held to answer for any Crime or offence, untill the same is fully and plainly, substantially and formally, described to him; or be compelled to accuse or furnish evidence against himselfe, and every subject shall have a right to produce all proof, that may be favourable to him; to meet the Witness face to face, and to be fully heard in his Defence by himselfe, or his Counsel, at his Election — and no Subject Shall be arrested, imprisoned, despoiled, or deprived of his property, immunities or privileges of the Protection of the Law, exiled, or deprived of his Life, Liberity or Estate, but by the Judgement of his peers or the Law of the Land, And the Legislature shall not make any Law that Shall Subject any person to a Capital or infamous punishment, excepting for the Government of the Army and Navy without Tryal by jury —

XIII In Criminal prosecutions, the verification of facts —in the vicinity where they happen, is one of the Greatest Securities of the Life, Liberty & prosperity of the Citizen —

XXVIII No person Can in any Case be Subjected to Law martial — or to any penalites or pains, by virtue of that Law, except those imployed in the army and navy and except the militia in actual service, but by Authority of the Legislature.

In Council Dec 17th 1780

Read & Advised that his Excellency the Governor be requested to write a Letter to Brigd General Wadsworth upon the Subject Matter of the within Petition

Attest Jn° Avery D Secy

Decrees of Maritime Court.

State of Massachusetts Bay — } Lincoln Ss —
in New England }

At the Maritime Court for the Eastern District of the State of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, holden at the Meeting-house in the East Precinct of Pownalborough, by the Hon Timothy Langdon Esq. Judge of said Court on Tuesday the third day of September, in the year of our Lord, one thousand, seven hundred & seventy six —

Be it remember'd that on the fifth day of July in the year of our Lord, One thousand, seven hund^d & seventy six, James Cargill of Newcastle in the County of Lincoln, who prosecutes as well for & in behalf of the People on board divers armed boats, Commanded by the s^d Cargill as of himself, came before the said Judge & filed a Libel, exhibiting an information, (to wit,) That on the twenty fourth day of July, Anno Domini, seventeen hundred & seventy five, within thirty leagues of the shore, & within the Jurisdiction of this Honble Court Attacked, took & brought, into the river of Sheepscott, within s^d County of Lincoln, a certain sloop called the Nancy, burthen about eighty tons, & laden with the articles of Cargo mention'd in the schedule annex'd, that said Sloop at the time of the capture thereof was in the actual service of the Fleet & Army then employ'd against the United Colonies & had at divers times between the nineteenth day of April, Anno Domini seventeen hundred & seventy five, & the s^d twenty fourth day of July been improved in carrying supplies of sundry kinds to the s^d Enemies of the United Colonies, & that the master of s^d sloop had designs to supply the s^d Enemy, In violation of the Laws & acts of this Colony in such case made & provided. By means of all which the s^d Sloop her Cargo, & Appur^ns aforesaid by force of the Laws & acts aforesaid, are become a lawfull prize to the captors

thereof, who are the s^{d} James Cargill & his s^{d} Companies & to be disturbed as by s^{d} Laws are directed, And Praying advisement thereon & that in a due course of Law & Proceedings, the s^{d} Sloop her Cargo & Appur^{ces} may be adjudged to be & remain forfeit, & to be divided & applied in manner aforesaid.— And the time & Place of trial having been duely notified, the s^{d} James Cargill the Proponant appears & no Person appearing to shew cause why the said Sloop with her Cargo & Appur^{ces} should not be condemned, after a full hearing of the s^{d} Proponant (by his Counsell) the bill aforesaid of the s^{d} Proponant was committed to a Jury duely returned, impanneld & sworn, to return a true verdict thereon According to Law & Evidence.— Which Jury are Solomon Walker, John Cartland, James Little, Samuel Brown, William Reed, Gabriel Hambleton, Alexander Drumond, Joshua Farnham, Jonathan Fuller, William Hilton, John Getchel, William Boyinton, who upon their Oath say that the said Sloop Nancy was improv'd in carrying supplies to the Fleet and Army, employ'd against the United States of America, since the nineteenth of April, One thousand seven hundred & seventy five, & being so improved was taken by James Cargill & his s^{d} Company, as set forth in the Libel.

Thereupon it is by the s^{d} Timothy Langdon, Judge as aforesaid considered, & by him decreed, that the s^{d} sloop with her Appur^{ces} & Cargo, are forfeit, that the same be sold at Publick Vendue, & that of the monies thence arising the charges of trial & Condemnation, being Eight pounds, seventeen shillings & nine pence be paid to James Cargill the Proponant, & that the residue of the Proceeds of the same, after deducting Sherriffs fees, be paid to the said deptors, or their Attorneys or Agents for the Benefit of said Captors—

Att Nathl Thwing Clerk

A True Coppy as appears of Record

Examin'd p^{r} Nathl Thwing Clerk

Order of General Court.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 3: 1780

Ordered that Col. Coffin & Col. Dawes with such as the Hon Senate shall join be a Committee to take into Consideration a Letter from Joseph Gardner & report what is best to be done thereon

Caleb Davis Speaker

Sent up for Concurrence

In Senate Novr 3^{d} 1780

Read & Concurred & Saml Mather Esqr joined —

Jere Powell Pres^{t}

Report of Committee in re Penobscot Indians, and Resolve By General Court.

In the House of Representatives Nov 4, 1780

The Committee on the Petition of Col Josiah Brewer & of Orana & others Chiefs of the Penobscot Tribes of Indians take leave to report the following Resolves

vizt In Consideration of the Attatchment and Services of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, and the Advantages of their Connection & Trade, ¶Resolved That the Commissary General be & hereby is directed to make Provision for the Accomodation & Subsistence of the Person whom the French Consul has recommended, on his Way to join the Penobscot Tribe in Order to reside with them as an Instructor — and to procure & deliver to Col Josiah Brewer for the Use of the Indian Chiefs now in the Town of Boston, the following Articles vizt one Regimental Coat six Fire Arms six Pounds of Powder twenty four Pounds of Ball & Shot for their defence on their Return Home and the following

Articles for the Use of the Families of those who fell in Battle in the Service of the United States vizt twenty four yards of Strouds or Duffelt thirty six yards of Dowlass or coarse Linnen one Barrel of Pork & two Barrells of Flour — and the following Articles for Presents to the Tribe to be as equally as possible divided among them — under the Direction of Col Brewer vizt one hundred Pounds Weight of Powder with four hundred Pounds Weight of Shot and Ball one hundred Jack knives and fifty Hatchets — and that the Commissary General be directed to make Sale of the Furrs now on Hand, & that such Part of the Produce thereof as may necessary be appropriated to the afore mentioned Purposes, reserving the Ballances in his Hands for Procuring such Stores, as this Court shall see fit to order for the Supply of the Garrison at Fort Halifax any Order or Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding

Caleb Davis Speaker

Read & accepted — sent up for Concurrence

In Senate Novr 6th 1780

Read & Concurred

Jer. Powell Presid^{t}

approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Lucy Rittal.

To his Excellency John Hancock Esqr Governour of the Commonwealth of Massachus^{tts} and the Honorable the Council of said Commonwealth.—

The Petition of Peletiah Freeman Humbly Sheweth —

That to avoid the Enemy of the United States, He came from Penobscott the 20th Ulti^{o} with an Intent to Settle in some part of this Commonwealth unexposed to thair Deperdations & Insults, that the mode of his quitting that place

not Admitting of his taking his Family with him, he was reduced to the disagreeable Necessity of leaving behind him a Mother, Wife, and four Children, for whose removeal he Apply'd to Brigadier Gen: Wadsworth to Grant a Flag, who Conceiving himself not Authorized to grant the request recommended your Petitioner to your Excellency & Honors whom he now Prays that he may be Allowed to send a Flag from Old York in this Commonwealth to Penobscott for the removal of his Family, Consisting as Above recited and your Petitioner in duty bound shall ever pray —

Pelatiah freeman

Boston Novr 8th, 1780

In Senate Nov. 9th 1780

Read and Advised that the Prayer of this Petition be so far granted that Pelatiah Freeman be and he hereby is permitted to proceed in the first Cartel that shall sail from this Port bound to Majorbaggaduce for the purpose of removing his Family from thence into some part of this Commonwealth and the Commissary of Prisoners is hereby directed to permit the Said Freeman to take Passage for the purpose aforesaid —

John Hancock

Attest John Avery D Secy

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Council Chamber Nov 11th 1780

Whereas it hath been represented to his Excellency the Governour by Pelatiah Freeman late a resident at Penobscot that he was under the Disagreeable Necessity in Consequence of the Ill Treatment of the Enemy to leave his Family in a very destitute Situation and prays that a Flagg may be granted to bring his Said Family from thence to the Town of York in the County of York. The Council advise that Pelatiah Freeman be permitted to send a Flagg to Majorbaggaduce to be Commanded by some Person that the Select-

men of the Town of York shall approve off, for the purpose of bringing the Family of the Said Pelatiah Freeman consisting of his Mother Wife and four Children from thence to the Town of York in the County of York and Said Selectmen are hereby directed to see that no more Men be shipped on Board Said Vessel than necessary to navigate her or Provisions or any other Articles more than sufficient for said Voyage and to see that No Merchandize of any kind whatever be brought in Said Vessell on her Return excepting the Household Goods of the Said Freeman's Family, and to inspect all Papers or Letters on Board previous to her sailing

Attest John Avery D Secy

Letter From J Allan.

A Plan Proposed for the Military & other Business in the Indian Eastern Department —

One Colon[l] | Superintend[t] | & a Secretary 1 Major 1 Capt[n] 1 Capt[n] Lieutn[t] 2 First Lieuten[s] 2 Second Lieut[s] a Drum & Fife for the Departm[t] Three Serjents three Corporals — One Bombardier One Gunner One Drum & Fife Fifty privates — The Whole of the above, with what Indians may be Imploy'd from Time to Time, to be Incorporated into one Corps — the Unsteadyness of the Indians & their Fluctuating ways, it is Uncertain to Know How mayny will be in Service — But Highly Necessary for Officers with Ranque and Authority to be Continualy Amoung them on Military affairs & Negociating other Business

The Indians are very Expencive Soldiers there is no Satisfying them when necessety Calls for their Assistance, & will for ever After — Any Piece of service is don return — In Consiquence it will be Best More Certain, & Much Less Expence to keep White Troops on duty — Keep the Indians

a Hunting & only Call upon them when Immediately wanted the same as Militia —

Tho the above be in one Core the duty which is Necessary will be diffirent, To Wt, Major Captn Lieu^{t} 1 first Lieu^{t} 1 & 1 Second Lieutenant one Drum & fife perticularly for the Indians — one Captain, on first Lieutn^{t} & one Second Lieu^{t} & the other White Troops for Garrisoning Fort Gates & other Temporary posts &c for the Indian Business, as also for the Care of the Artilary Here — & when Ordered Otherways, the Business of the Indians being so Extensive — The diffirent Tribes & Villages Necessary to Be at from time to Time — requires that Coud this take place, and the Militia Eastward of Penobscut River be under proper Regulation Order & Command — it is presumed it would be fully sufficient to oppose any Enemy which at present coud Come Against this part of the Country — It is much more advantagious in every Respect to have men Steady, it is Impracticable to Do Business with out it — the Winter Employ being as much as Summer — & the Militia that Comes are no ways Calculated for such things tho they have done as much as can be Expected —

The Company of Artilery under Lieu^{t} Albee has not been full these two years — as the small Encouragement the Indigent State & Extravagent prices of the Country, is such that the men are most of the time unfit for Duty for want of Clothes otherwise we could get what men we please — It would be necessary if such a Company be raised that they have Cloathing as other Troops in the Continental Service — But in order to have the Indians of any Service to the States & to prevent all Connection with the Enemy, some thing More Permanent than has Been, Must be settled — Either to keep them in the Service Continualy, or for Trade If the former Large Quantity of Provision must be laid in, with Cloathing, If for Trade a Truck House with Large Supply

of Cloathing, Ammunition & Some Provisions this Must be done by Febuary or the Middle of March at furthest, for the Spring, & By the Last of Octob^{r} or Middle of Novemb^{r} at furthest for the Fall — The Trade of the Indians may be verry Great & verry Beneficial, But requires sutable & Timely Supplys, or the Trade is Lost if not Attended to at the proper Season — The Truck House Must be fixt on the River Skuduck at Passamaquody, which may be done with as Little Expence as any where — this being the center of the Indians Hunt and the Rout they Generaly Take when Coming to the Sea Coast from Hunting — If this is not done the Petty Traders | which Are every where with rum & other things of no Service to the Indians, which at present is the Case | Are Liable to take every thing. If the Trade is not all Commanded, the Indians will Run every where Steal their Trade & if any will supply them in Rum they Care not what is given, depending upon Assistance from the Public Stores, & if refused will go to St Johns — and Must say Hitherto the Indians have Been Supported by Government for the Benefite & profite of Individuals — the Law to Prohibite the Trade is of No Service in the Department — Such a Veriety of Measures to be pursued in Civil Law, the Great Expence attending it, the Length of Time it takes and the distance of the Place where it Must Terminate, Makes it impossible for Persons in Public Service to do any thing in such Cases.

Of the Two aforesaid propositions one must Certainly Take place if it is Expected the Indians will be of Service — That of Keeping them in the service, the Government has seen the Expence tho not Adequate to their Wants, nor what I Promised them — If for Trade there must be full supplys as before Mentioned — for if they Cannot Get Something Gratis, In the present State of Trade and if it Depends Upon their own Industry for subsistance they will Certainly Deal with those they Can Gete the most from. When if a

Truck House is not sutably suppy'd By the States — the Britons will reap the Benifite, as their Stores are Generaly well furnished — and without doubt / am sorry to be Obliged to say it / Trades much More Honorable & Fair with them

If Trade shoud be thought Most Expedient, and Not Convinent for Government to procure supplys, it will be much better to Give some Person an Exclusive Right to the Trade during the Warr Under Certain Rules & Restrictions, this woud Tend so much to the Interest of Governm^t as to Keep the Indians in the States Ready if wanted —

In Calculating what may be Wanting for the Trade, To Come as near as possible — 120 Famelys one with Another the Value of 50^lb Beaver each this is rather Under than Over for Spring — one third that Quantity in the fall — the supplys Necessary — being Generally Known may be Calculated by this —

There Must be also supplys Laid in for the payment of Indians for Any Services done & When Employ'd with provisions if Intended to have their Assistance in wars —

The Setuation of the Department is such that it would be Requisite to have the Whole Business Transacted thro One Channell as a More Accurate & Satisfactory Account Might be Keept —

To have the Whole Business Laid Under Certain Restraints & Regulations, & Some Certain Method fixed to Bring Delinquents to Justice — the Post being at such a distance from where the Law is properly Executed, Requires this —

In Furnishing Provisions for the Whole Department as the distance and Risque is so Great — the Length of time it may Take in procureing it, Consiquently Great Expence in Collecting for Present Necessity — It is proposed that Provisions be Laid in for Six Months, Bread kind two thirds in Indian Corn one third "Bread, Rice & Mollases — some Hogs

Fatt & Porck — the Beef and Greatest part of other Matters may be purchased in this Country at a More Cheaper rate than in Boston — the Risque & Freight Saved — Rum there Must Allways be, for Indians & other Services

Coud it be Consistant with Order, and Government have such a person in the Management of the Business, on Whose Honour & Integrety they coud Confide — It woud be Expedient that he shoud have the Whole Direction of the Business & to Make Such Alterations as might be Necessary for in such a Department persons may be Employd for such a perticular part by Government as may Not be Necessary for what is to be done — Before this summer persons where Only Employ'd as Occation Required — & payments Made Agreeable to What they Merited and Indeed the Business is of such a nature, that it is Requisite the Commanding officer Shoud Particularly Interfere in every Matter & the Whole to Go thro his Hands —

The Department is at present in Want of Provisions & Supplys for Indians — not Two weeks Allowence in the Stores — about Fifty persons at present to Support on the spot Besides The Indians which Comes in, and When they Assemble for Councel, Expect Subsistance dureing the Time — Also Desertors and Prisoners dayly passing, which must be supported here & on their way westward —

Powder is also wanting, the Indians Consuems a Great Quantity & some other Matters for Artillery and Utincels for the Use of the Garrison, a Memorand^{m} thereof herwith sent — An Armmourer is Much Wanting which is the most Beneficial Employment in the Staff Department —

In Order to have that Part of the State Eastward of Penobscutt in Preparation & Posture for Defence — It being as it were Divided from the Other Part — to have some perticular Order for Assembleing the Militia When Orderd —

The Indigent State of the Country & the scarseity of

Amunition Make it Difficult & in Some places Impossible for the Militia to Furnish Themselves — It woud be of the Greatest Service to have some Arms & Ammunition Deposited in each district for the Use of the Several Companys According to their Strength — & Not to be in Use, but on Necessary Occations, & if Not Used to be Returnd — this Practised Under my own Command.

It woud be Also Necessary to have an Officer of Militia on Command at Frenchmans Bay, to have the Immediate Inspection of that Part, to be able to Collect the Militia on a sudden Occation & Command any Troops sent from this part.

This at Present Appears in General the Best Method for the Management of this Department and Secureing the Country Eastward of Penobscutt — The Whole is Submitted to the Ditermination of Government

J Allan

Doggett & Jepsons Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts } To the Hon[l] Council Hon[l] Senate and Hon[l] House of Representatives sitting at Boston — Nov[r] 1780 —

The Petition of Benjamin Jepson & Samuel Doggett humbly sheweth.—

That they were owners of the Sloop called the Pigeon of eighty Tons burthen which was taken into the Government Service by the Board of War of said Commonwealth as a Transport for the Expedition to Penobscot on the 8th Day of July 1779 and was chatered for Six pounds fifteen Shillings a Ton by the month which was to have been paid within 3 months from the time of her discharge or being lost or taken that the said Sloop was destroyed at said Penobscot being

appraised before she sailed at £4400 in the then current Money unfortunately for said Doggett as the profits & Gains of which being the only means whereby he could support & maintain his family he having for eighteen months past been in so bad a State of Health as to render him incapable of any Business has been obliged to borrow Sums of Money to supply the wants of himself & family and has no ways or means to pay the same but upon the Receipt of the above Money The said Doggett being thus greatly distressed & not knowing by what means he can support his family during the ensuing winter unless your Honors would interpose for his relief.— Your Honors took into consideration the distressing Circumstances of said Doggett as alledged in the above Petition & ordered him to be relieved by the said Board of War and the said Board of War accepted to pay the same & are ready to pay it in War Office Certificates the depreciated Circumstances of which are such as that they will not be of any the least Service or relief to him. Your Petitioners humbly pray your Honors again to take into Consideration the Circumstances of a Suffering Inhabitant and order him to receive if even a Part of the above in circulating Currency or in any other way to your Honors may seem just & wise.—

And as in Duty bound your Petitioners will ever pray.—

Benj[a] Jepson Sam[l] Doggett

Letter From John Allan.

Indian Eastern Department
Machias Novemb[r] 2[d] 1780

Sir

I take the first safe Oppertunity to Transmit to your Excellency a Return of the State of this Department, and shall

at the same time take the Liberty to Make some Observations in its setuation at this Juncture, With some Occurrences which has happened —

This Department, Being not as Yet fixt upon any Certain Plan, Nor Am I acquainted of the real Intention of Government — respecting it, Nor to Whome, I am Immediately Accountable for my Conduct Being Authorized by Congress as Agent to the Eastern Indians at the same time Commission'd in a Military Capasity, By the General Court of this State — Hitherto I have Transmitted Matters, Both to the Continental Commander of the Military & the General Court —

The Head Quarters of the Department and the Principle Post Erected in Consiquence, Being within the Massachusetts and the Secureing the Interest of the Indians being more perticular for the Benefit of the Eastern Part of the State, I thought it my duty to Inform your Excellency of these perticulars —

The Returns Here Inclosed I have Taken from the Several Persons Concerned, and as I Generaly Make myself interested with every Perticular Matter, it may be deppended Upon, the Whole to be Exact and Just —

Your Excellency will see by this, the State of this post, on which Depends the State of the Country Eastward of Penobscutt, and Secureing the Indians — Matters Are verry Visibly Changed within Eighteen Months Instead of having Suitable Assistance from the people, in opposeing the Enemy, There is a Necessity of Pursuing Measures to Stop the Connexion & Correspondence Between the Trading part & the Britons By which the Setuation of Our Country is Continually Communicated to them, the security of the Country Hitherto, has Been by Preventing an Intercourse & Checking every Appearence of it — so that the Enemy Coud never Know our real Strength, But it is now quite otherways — The Farming & Common people are as Zealous in the Cause

& Determind to Oppose as ever, But those who were Call'd the Leading Men have Turned to Another Object, & Pursue the Paths of | the Bane of America | of too Many on the Continent, Makeing Self the Predominant, By which the people in General Knows not which way to Turn or how to Act —

Negotiations Began two years Ago, by some Persons to Supply the Britons with Lumber, which has Been Growing ever since, & which I have frequently Acquainted Government of, Hitherto I have been successful in suppressing it — By keeping Scouts of Indians & Others thro the Country — A Quantity of Boards & Masts is now at Frenchmans Bay & by Certain Inteligence from Baguaduce, the Enemy appears determind to have as well as to seize Catle for the Use of their Garrison — Upon the Application of the Committee for Assistance have Orderd Lieu^{t} Col^{l} Campbell of the Militia to take post there, and have detached of a Party of the Troops from this Post with a Piece of Artillery — It appears that this Lumber & Masts are paid for, in Consiquence I orderd a Court of Inquiry to find Out the Certainty, & if the Case to seize it, or if other ways to secure it —

Passamaquody about thirty Miles Eastward of this is a nest of Villiany in Negociating Business with the Enemy — The Toloration given by Granting Clearences for Vessells from the Massachusetts and New Hampshire, opens a door to Carry on every Illicite Matter — Runaways, Express &c, shelterd & forwarded every thing in Trade and Politics Negociated thro this Channell — Add to this it is the only Adjacent place for the Indians to Hunt, & I Chuse Generaly to Keep them there, as it Diminishes the Expence of Provisions & Much More Agreeable to the Indians — Here the Emissarys of Britain Probagate reports Amoung and Under handedly Discourages the Indians from serving America, The Itinerant Traders, Gets the Greatest part of their Trade,

which they turn to either side as may be Most Beneficial — I am some times Under the Greatest Disadvantage in Transacting Business & which Generaly Tends to bring on heavy Expences to keep them quiet — The Trade of Fishery of this place is Advantagious, but must be under proper restraint to be Beneficial to the States — it is at present under the Jurisdiction of Novascotia & the Law of that Government is in force & frequently Executed — British Cruizers often there — a Ship of Twenty Guns was Loaded there a Short Time Ago — The Movement I made upon the Occation & since has prevented others that was Expected — this Ship saild six hours before I got there, having had Inteligence of my Coming, tho sett of in the night, as Secrete as Possible.

I have Hitherto Protected that part as some of the Inhabitants have Been verry Beneficial in helping the Indians — relying allways Upon their sanguine Atteachment to the States, but this Summer Occular Demonstration has Convinced, that they are not deserving such Protection —

My Unhappy Situation for want of Men has Prevented Many from being brot to Justice. tho Matters Apear Clear against them — there is no way to pursue to Conviction, without Aprehending them in the Act, as the Group of those Conected & Concerned Use every Means to Suppress these things from being brot to Light —

Upon the Whole, as a servant to the States think it my duty to Recommend to Your Excellency, as of Great Consiquence for the Safety of the Eastern Country & to prevent the Advantages the Enemys Reaps by Inteligences that Passamaquody may be Under some other Regulations & Restraints, & some Arbitrary Measures to stop the Evil —

The Toleration also Given to People to settle Business in Nova Scotia is very Detrimental to the Public Interest. I know myself several that has had it these three years, & whome I know certain has Compleated their Business some

Time Ago Do Still Under that former Sanction go Backwards & forwards as they Please, By this Another Evil Arrises, which is a discouragement to the Good Subjects in this Quarter the Martial Law's Being Established in the County of Lincoln, and the necessity of Keeping Matters Under some Regulations, I have Laid restraints on peoples going to Passamaquody without a Passport in which is every persons name who goes, in Boat or Vessells, with Certain Restrictions, these People with Permission often Makes their Appearence, the people in General Knows their Business, But they appear to Defy every Authority In Consiquence the quiet & Peaceable Inhabitants, who are only procuring a Little Fish for the Suport of their Famelys Views themselves the Only Persons who suffers any Evil which Arrises from the Law —

The situation of Indian Affairs I cannot at Present Transmit to Your Excellency, as I have Not had a Conference for some time. I Expect a General Meeting the 15th of the Mounth at Passamaquody, where I intend to have a Genl Settlement of every Matter & form upon such Methods as may Best Appear for future Conduct —

The Steps taken by the Britons the past Summer has Occationed much Confusion Amoung them & Made them so unsteady that if a proper Attack had been Made by the Enemy, the Country Must without Doubt, fell into their Hands —

During my Agency every Method has been pursued by the Enemys offering presents, pay, Premiums and the Like, but by the Smiles of Providence, have not taken effect — this Summer, General Haldimand Engaged some of those Indians, who had escaped General Sulivan, to Carry Belts of Wampum for Warr Amoung the Eastern Indians that it was their ditermination to fall upon the Eastern parts of this State to gete satisfaction — Desireing the Assistance of

the Eastern Indians, or if not to draw off from the Americans, otherwise if found Amoung them they woud suffer, as a General Massacre was Intended, that 1500, now Assembled for that purpose — this seem'd to take some Effect, & from March last to Septemb^r every Tree or Leaf seen to Shake, by a Squaw or papoose, was the Mohawks Coming | It may be Observed that Indians are much more Affraid of their own Coulas*, when Coming Amoung Famelys to attack than other People Knowing their Own Customs of Cruelty | — I was fully senseable of the foundation of the Matter by private Inteligence — I Continued five weeks in their Village, during the Time, Public Conferences every day — Express often, from Penobscutts, Micmacks & the Confines of Canady, finily I Persuaded them to the Contrary — and proposed that Deputys from each Tribe shoud be sent to Canady to know the Certainty — which was agreed to & put in Execution — thing Being thus Quieted — I Return'd to Mechias Upon some Business which Required my Attendence — seven days after, Return'd to Passamaquody same day of my Arrival, An Express Came from a Priest, with all the Pompe & Majesty necessary to Excite the Indians — their Seal & Begotry was such that it Got the Better, and all I coud Argue or Say — far Diffirent than I was before accustomed to — they Gave me a Positive Answer they Must go & see the Priest, but for nothing Else — I found it Necessary from Necessity to Coincide — It appears they have not Negociated any thing with the Britons, nor Do I think any woud joine — But by drawing them off Leaves the Country Open, Gives Great Encouragement to the Enemy as the Indians were their only dread before — A Great Part of them has drawn off in the Lakes Back of Passamaquody, but none of any Consiquence have Been in here since the Expresses are Continualy Keep'd up, & Mutual Pledges of Friendship

* Class?

Allways Passes — the Death of Ambroise, which there is every Reason to supose was poisoned, Occations Much Speculation Amoung them | and By their not Meeting me before now | Immagine they Are Consulting About that Affair, as my Express has been about three Weeks Gone & No Answer — at present only Twenty five Wigwams at Passamaquody —

You will have Laid before your Excellency, a Plan for the Military and other Matters of this Department, which I Humbly Submit for your Excellency's Perusal — By Experience I have found the Methods allready pursued, no way of Advantage to the Business & which has accumulated the Expence —

The Indian & Military affairs in the Department have been a Complixt Matter — the supplys have been Laid in for the diffirent uses, the Great Deffeciencys always of both, the necessity of a receprocal assistance, & the whole being under my Command, obliged to Take from the one to help the other to Enable me to Execute the Various Bussiness — The Manner of Laying in the Supplys of this Department has Occassioned Methods verry Diffirent from the Rule in Other places, nor was it possible to do business otherways — Nothing Coud be purchased for Money — The Inhabitants in General only a Bare Sufficiency for their support, Consiquently coud not spare thing only on Conditions of Returning, the necessity of Keeping a Good Understanding with the people to prevent the Enemy from Reaping certain Advantages by jarring & Contentions, Compelld me to do this — so that during my Agency Bartering & Changeing has been the Case Continualy —

Your Excellency will Please observe, that the Time of the Troops on duty here that Came from the Westward, is out in three weeks, By which there will not Exceed fifteen men for the defence of this Post and Transacting the Indian Business — there can be no Dependence on the Militia for Garri-

son Duty — for when any Are demanded Altercations Arrises & Inflamed by men of not the Best Principles for America about the Lawfullness of such things — which Arrises to a sufficient Excuse to dispute Going on duty — it Generaly Terminates so, as to be of no service or Use — We have several Times been threaten'd, but thro a Kind Providence been preserved, But at this Time there appears as much danger than at any time before, of surprizeing this Post — tho Accounts Are sometimes Vague, Still there is a Sufficiency to prove the Certainty — General Clinton having Engag'd with one Farnum for a Considerable Premium to sieze me — this Man — arrived at Bagauduce in a Ten Gun Schooner About three weeks ago, who was to assist him in the Execution, which was to be done in the night with Boats, but two young men belonging this way, having made their Escape from the Schooner, Gave me Immediate Advice, which I presume stoped them for the present — Other steps of the Kind has been Tryd with the Indians who have Hitherto Refused the Celebrated Col° formerly Major Rogers passing & Repassing Constantly in Boats that from these Circumstances Amoung Many Others — I have every Reason to Suppose some attempt will be made when the Troops are Discharged

I must therefore Recommend in the Strongest Manner to Your Excellency that some Arrangement May be made in this Department more than has hitherto been, & some assistance Immediately sent for the secureing this Post & Country & the Interest of the Indians — or if not Immediately Under Your Excellencys Jurisdiction, must solicite your assistance in having it Executed —

Mr Avery who has Been some time in Boston had my orders to have a proper arrangement made, what has been done I have not yet heard but at present must Recommend the plan Herewith sent

The Inclosed plans of the Situation of Fort Gates is not verry Ellegantly Drawn, but pretty Accurate, will I flater myself Give your Excellency an Idea of it —

Your Excellency will please Excuse the Length & Incorrectness of my Letter, being Anxcious to give every Information, but the Hurry of Business which Surrounds me, prevents my doing of it so as to be Less Tedious — I can only Take an Oppertunity now & then to Huddle it Together —

Captn Preble Second in Command, in Indian Affairs & who Goes Commander of the Schooner Neshquowoit will have the Honour of Delivering your Excellency this — He will be Capable to Inform of Any News & other perticulars.

I have the Honor to Be with the most Profound Respect

Your Excellencys

Most Obed^{t} and very hb^{l} serv^{t}

J Allan

November 9th 1780.

The Schooner not being in a situation to Depart before this Evening Have just Received a report by Express from Col^{o} Campbell, that the preparations made had deter'd the Enemy to Attempt any thing at Frenchman's Bay. That the Militia that way had behaved with great Spirit — That the Court of Inquiry Coud not find out Certain proof that the Lumber was paid for, But that many Circumstances Corroborated, that in their oppion it was British property, there is about 180,000 ft of Board — about 80 fine masts & sparrs————————

That & saild from Bagaduce as a Convoy of a Mast Ship going to River St John's to Load from thence to Halifax These mails I have acquanted You of before also a Number of Prizes with him This fleet was seen of Machias Last Sunday I amigine will pass Cape Sable in Ten days from this —

That a Ten Gun Schooner & Two smaller were Cruizing

of Crambery Island, Mount Desert to Intercept some Vessells Bound from this — So far the Report

I have ordered Col° Campbell to remove the Lumber & Mails to a place of Safety — This day Three Vessels with Considerable property sailed from this for westward — The Neashquowoit sails tomorrow

In Senate Novr 7th 1780

Read & thereupon ordered that Stephen Choate & Joseph Dorr Esq^rs with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to consider this Letter with the papers accompanying the same and make report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell, Presid^t

In the House of Representatives Novr 18th 1780

Read & concurred & Mr Lombard, Col° Taylor & Mr Lewis are joined

Caleb Davis Spk^r

Petition of Saml Freeman et als.

To The Honble Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Proprietors of a Tract of Land "beginning at the little River Newechewanaog River over against Humphry Chadbourne (late whilst he lived at Kittery) his Log House and from thence upon an Imaginary Line to Cape Porpus River being by computation, Twenty Miles, and so from thence upon Imaginary Lines to make it up Twenty Miles Square" derived from Francis Small late of Truro in the County of Barnstable Fisherman deceasd — humbly shews

That said Proprietors are informed that the Proprietors of a Township held under the Title of Maj. Nicholas Shap-

leigh whose Right was derived from the above named Francis Small have petitioned the Gener[l] Court to have said Township incorporated —

That your Petitioners are not knowing of any proper and legal Division which has been made between them and the rightful Heirs of the said Francis Small. It is true an Agreement was made the 17th August 1773 with the Heirs of said Shapleigh by M[r] Samuel Small Jun[r] and a number of others who called themselves Heirs of the abovesaid Francis Small. But it is in the Opinion of your Petitioners attended with such extraordinary Circumstances that it ought not to be consider'd as a fair and proper Title to the Township it was intended to set off to the said Shapleighs Heirs

We are willing notwithstanding they shou'd have a Township in the Westerly Part of the aforesaid Tract — but we do not think it right that they should extend it Easterly so far as the bounds they have proposed —

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray that said Township may not be incorporated until they shall have an opportunity to be heard upon the subject — and such Bounds settled as will be just & reasonable between the Parties.

And as in Duty bound your Petitioner will ever pray —

Sam[l] Freeman }
Peter Woodbery } Committee
Daniel Strout }

By order of said Proprietor
Falmouth Nov 2 1780

Petition Saml Freeman et als.

To The Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Subscribers a Committee of the Proprietors of a Tract of Land "beginning at the little River

Newechewanoag River over against Humphry Chadbourne (late whilst he lived at Kittery) his Log House, and from thence upon an Imaginary Line to Cape Porpus River, being by computation twenty Miles and from thence upon imaginary Lines to make it up twenty Miles Square" late belonging to Francis Small deceasd, humbly shews —

That said Proprietors being desirous of settling their Lands and having the Bounds thereof between their claim and Lands belonging to the Government, ascertained, petition'd the General Court, sometime since, to take measures for determining the same.

That they have appointed your Petitioners a Committee to run out said Claim, in order that the Settlement thereof may be promoted.

Your Petitioners therefore, in behalf of said Proprietors, humbly pray that your Excellency & Honours wou'd revive their Petition above referrd to, which is now on the Files of the late Honorable House of Representatives, and take such Order thereon as to your Excellency and Honours shall seem meet — And your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray —

Sam[l] Freeman
Peter Woodbery
Daniel Strout

Falmouth Nov[r] 2 1780

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of a Tract of Land beginning at the little River Newechewanaog River over against Humphry Chadbourne (late whilst he lived at Kittery) his Log House, and from thence upon an Imaginary Line to Cape Porpus River, being by computation Twenty Miles and so from thence upon Imaginary Lines to make it up Twenty Miles Square: derived from Francis Small late of Truro in the County of Barnstable Fisherman deceas'd — held at the house of M[rs] Alice Greely Innholder in Falmouth

in the County of Cumberland; 24th October 1780, Voted Unanimously to run out or cause to be run out the Claim of the Proprietors. and that. Samuel Freeman Esqr Peter Woodbery and Daniel Strout be a Committee for that purpose that the Committee aforesaid be directed to Inquire if the General Court have taken any order on the Petition of said Proprietors prefer'd in June last, and if it is not their Honors pleasure to take Order thereon, that said Committee be and are hereby directed to proceed on the business Assign'd them without delay, Voted that the Committee be directed to prefer a petition to the General Court — in such terms as they shall think proper Praying that Shapleigh Town may not be incorporated according to the bounds Express'd in their Petition —

Attest Tho. Childs Proprs Clerk

Petition of Josiah Brewer.

Boston Nov. 1780

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts, in Court Assembled

The Petition of Josiah Brewer Truck Master at Fort Hallifax — Humbly Sheweth That the Honorable General Court having Resolved on the 4th inst That the Commissary General be and hereby is directed to make provision for the Accommodation and Subsistance of the person whom the French Consul has recommended on his way to Joyn the Penobscot Tribe in order to reside with them as an Instructor" and no order being Taken with Respect to his Support during his residence in the Eastern Countrey. Your Petitioner requests of the Honorable Court, That the said Juniper Berthiaune, Recollet be put under the Direction of the

Commanding officer, in the Eastern District. and have such support allotted and ordered to him as to your Honors may seem fitt — Your Petitioner further begs leave to Represent to your Honors that the Stores & Merchandize which he has on hand belonging to the Common Wealth for the purpose of Carrying On A Truck Trade with the said Indians are not sufficient for the Purpose of supplying them, and receiving the Advantage of the Furrs which they Usualy bring to the Truck house for sale or Exchange, for Merchandize and Stores from this time. to The Spring Ensuing, and inasmuch as the Continuance of the Supply is of Importance to the Common Wealth in Strengthening the attachment of the said Tribe to our Interest We humbly request the Honorable Court to give orders for his being supplied with the following articles,

2 bbl Sugar 2 bb^{l} Mollasses 2 hh^{ds} Bread 2 ℔ Shot 1 ℔ Powder 4 yd^{s} Baze 6 y^{ds} Linnen 100 Blankets 8 yd^{s} Shrouds 2 yd^{s} Broad Cloth 1 hh^{d} Tobacco 50 y^{ds} Quality 20 yds Ribband 10 doz Jack knives 6 y^{ds} Calleco 2 y^{ds} Cambrick 10 ℔ Brimstone 100 Worms for Guns 30 Small brass Kittles 100 Doz Flints 60 ^{w} Brass Wire 20 doz fish hooks 1 Box hard Soap 2 doz Hatchets 10 doz Handkerchiefs And your petitioner as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c

Josiah Brewer

Resolve of General Court.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representitives Nov^{ber} 7 1780

on the Petition of a Number of the Inhabitants of the Town of Thomaston in the County of Lincoln Seting forth their Distressed Situation on Account of the Enimy in that Quarter whereby their usual Supplies are in a Manner cut

of: which Renders Many of the Inhabitants uterly unable to Pay their Taxes at Present

Therefore Resolve that the one Moiety or half Part of all the Taxes Set to the Said Town of Thomaston Since the first Day of May Last be abated: and the Treasurer of this Common Wealth be and he hereby is Directed to Suspend the Calling on Said Town for more then the one half of the afore said Taxes [A] "untill the further order of the General Court" —

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Novr 7th 1780

Read & Concurred with the following amendment at A viz dele the words "untill the further order of the General Court"

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Novr 7, 1780

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Representation of Phillip Audebert.

To the Honble the Senetors And House Representatives

John Lucas Com^{sry} of Pensioners for this State In behalf of Phillip Audebert A Meren On bord the Armed Brigenten Hazard belong^{g} in the Service of the State, and who was wounded, 17th July 1779, As Appers by his Certificates

John Lucas

Pension office at Boston, 8th Novr 1780

Resolve Directing the Commissary Genl

The Committee appointed to consider what further Supplys be granted to the Indian Chief now in the Town of Boston takes leave to report the following Resolve

Viz

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Nov 9 1780

Resolved, That the Commissary General be & he hereby is directed to furnish a Pair of Shoes & a Coat to each of the five Indian Chiefs now in the Town of Boston —

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Novr 9th 1780

Read & concurred Jer. Powell Pres^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve making an Establishment of the Troops at Machias.

The Committee of Both Houses on the Petition of James Avery, have attended that Service, hear'd the Petitioner and take Leave to report on the several Matters contained in said Petition, by way of Resolve.

E Brooks p^r order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 10th 1780

Resolved That the Pay-Rolls of the Troops at Machias Except those called Dyers Rangers since June 1st 1779, be made up as follows, viz each private Soldier at forty Shillings per Month in Bills of the new Emission, and their Officers in the same Proportion according to the Continental Establishment —

And it is further Resolved, That the Pay-Roll of the Troops called Capt Dyers Rangers, raised by Order of Coun-

cil in January last, be made up at six Shillings per Month, in the Bills of the new Emission, to each Private and their Officers in the same Proportion at six shillings bases to forty shillings according to the Continental Establishment and that Customary Rations be allow'd them they having found their own Provisions.

And it is further Resolved, That those Men in the Artillery Company under the Command of Lieu^{t} Albee, who have been in the Service near three years, and still continue in the Service, have the Depreciation of their wages made up to them in the same manner and Proportion as other Continental Troops

And it is further Resolved, That the Officers & Soldiers under the Command of Col. Allen, who are engaged during the War, and have been in service more than three years, have the depreciation of their wages made up to them, in manner and form as expressed in the foregoing Resolve — and that the Board of War deliver to the officers a Sute of Clothes each on the same Terms, other Continental Officers have received them.

And whereas Colo Allen has been under a Necessity of Borrowing Provisions for the use of the Troops and Indians under his Command, as by his Returns appears; and there remains a Balance still due to him therefore

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to Receive and Examine said Returns, and to furnish Col. Allen with the several Articles necessary to Compleat the Payment of s^{d} borrow'd Provisions

And whereas Col. Alexander Campbell has been employed in the publick Service the greater part of the Time since Decr 1778, therefore

Resolved That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Commonwealth to said Col^{o} Campbell the Sum of

Forty Pounds in the Bills of the new Emission in Consideration of his past Services to this Time

And it is further Resolved, That the Revd James Lyon be intituled to Receive Two Rations p^{r} day out of the Publick Stores in Consideration of his officiating as a Chaplin to the Troops at Machias untill further Orders of the General Assembly

And it is further Resolved, That there be allow'd and pay'd to Capt Stephen Smith out of the Publick Treasury the Sum of Eight Pounds per month in Consideration of his Service as Commissary from the Time of his Appointment in the year 1777 to this Time; and that there be paid to William Tupper Clerk to the s^{d} Commissary the Sum of Three Pounds per Month for his Service, each Payment to be in Bills of the new Emission.

And it is further Resolved that there be paid out of the Publick Treasury the sum of Four Hundred Pounds, in Bills of the new Emission to Col^{o} Allen or his order to defray the Charges that have accrued since his Accounts have been made up; and also such Charges as may arise hereafter, said Allen to be accountable for the same in the next Settlement of his Acc^{ts} **A**

In Senate Novr 8th 1780

Read & Sent down

Jer^{e} Powell Pres^{t}

In the House of Representatives Novr 15th 1780

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Novr 15th 1780

Read & Concurred with an Amendment at **A** viz **A** insert the several Sums to be charged to the Continent

Sent down for Concurrence

Jere. Powell Pres^{t}

In the House of Representatives Novr 15th 1780
Read & concurred
Caleb Davis Spk^{r}
W^{t} drawn Novr 29th ins^{t} for £400
Approv'd John Hancock
W^{t} drawn Novr 24 ins^{t} for £40 — in favor Col^{o} Alex^{r} Campbell —

Petition of Peletiah Freeman and Order Thereon.

Pownalborough Nov^{m} 11th 1780

Coll^{o} Ezra Taylor Esqr Sir I intreat the favors of you to present the inclosed Petition to the Great and General Court and use your Intrest, & all your friend — to Gitt my husban Liberated form Goal & from his Bonds that he may Return to his Distressed Numerous family & many of them Small there is a hard Winter a-coming on & with the Greatest Industery & frugalety people Cant but Jest Live in this Cold Climat & my husbans Disorder, of Asseme that at Times we think he Cant Live, the Vessel — that our Son James was in foundered at See We herd & Saved in the Boat & taken up & then taken & carried into Captiverty, So that increases our Great Trouble, I petitioned General Wadsworth and Received his answer which is as follows Viz^{tt} headQuarters Thomaston 26 Octr 1780 Mad^{m} I have Jest Received your Letter in behalfe of your husban who unfortinately for me & more so for you, is Repersented as an Enemy to his Country, You may be assured that no undue advantage will be Taken of Small Indiscretions provided on Tryal (which will be soon at this place) he does not appear to be the man he is Repersented to be I am with sentements of Compassion Mad^{m} Mrs Rittal A Copy Your most Obed^{t} P. Wadsworth B. Gen^{ll}

My husban is Still in Goal & his famely in Great Distress as well as himselfe & I beleave you are Knowing to the Truth

of part of the Petition that he & his hath don for the Country & nothing against it. Your favour in this &c will lay both my husban & me & famely under Great obligations and am Sir your Devoted

humb[l] Servent Lucy Rittal

Resolve making an Establishment for Juniper Bertheaum.

The Committee on the Petition of Co[l] Josiah Brewer have attended that Service, & take Leave to report the following Resolves Viz[t]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Nov[r] 11th 1780 —

On the Petition of Col Josiah Brewer Truck master at Fort Hallifax on Kennebeck River,

Resolved, That Juniper Berthiaune, Recollet, the Instructor recommended by the French Consul, to reside with the Penobscot Tribe of Indians, be put under the Direction of the Commanding Officer of the Eastern District and that he be allowed & paid for his Services in Establishing the said Trible in the Interest of America the Sum five Pounds of the new Emission per Month & two Rations p[r] Day until the further order of the Gen[l] Court & in Consideration of the Benefits resulting to the Commonwealth from the Friendship of the said Indians, & for Continuing the Trade with them, it is further Resolved, That a Sum not exceeding five hundred Pounds of the new Emission be granted & paid to the Commissary General of this Commonwealth, the same to be by him appropriated to the Purchase of such Articles as he shall find necessary for carrying on the Truck Trade at Fort Halifax —

And that the goods be procured & forwarded with all possible Dispatch to Fort Western there to remain subject to

the Order of the said Col Brewer to be by him disposed of in Exchange for Furrs & Skins the same to be by him remitted to the Commissary General — Said Brewer to be accountable for the said Goods —

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Novr 11th 1780

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presid^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

Warrant drawn for £500 — 14th ins^{t}

Letter of Wm Frost.

Falm^{o} Novr 14th 1780

May it please y^{r} Honours

The masts belonging to you in my care I observe decay fast on acc^{t} of the rents on the side which is out of Water & has been exposed to the Sun should they lay another season will not be worth shipping, they are now in my dock which probably will freeze in a fortnight, so that they cannot easily be got out in the winter. Should you incline to send them off this Winter I can now get them to a place where they may be come at, at any Time — can also procure, what is deficient to load a ship of five hundred tons by the first good sleding or in the course of the Winter the masts are so defective already that they must be considerably reduced: if you conclude to send a Ship, please to inform me thereof by the first Post. I remain y^{r} very h^{l} S^{t}

Wm Frost

Resolve on the Petition of Benj Jepson.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

in the House of Repentatives — Novr 15 — 1780

On the Petition of Benj. Jepson & S Dogget Resolved that the Prayer of the Pitition be Granted & that the Board of Warr be directed to Settle & pay them as soon as they can agreeable to Charter party alowing them Depreciation on the Sum due from the Time they ought to have been paid their mony according to the Rule of Depreciation.

Resolve Directing the Committee on Acc^{ts}

Common Welth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 16th 1780

The Committee appointed to Consider Certain Gaurds at Falmouth Bay Leave to Report By Way of Resolve —

Resolved that the Gaurds on the Sea Coast at Falmouth be made up the same Rations as the other Corps are made the Comand of General Wadsworth at the Eastern Department and the Committee on accounts are Directed to Settle with the Commissary accordingly

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate Novr 16th 1780

Read & Concurred Jer^{e} Powell, Pres^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

Thomas Town et al to Col. Taylor.

Falmouth Gole Novr 19th 1780

Sr we have this opertunity to in forme you of our Distresd Surcumstanst in being taken as prizners and caried to Falmouth and thare put into Close Gole and Confind thear with-

out a Trial we have aplied twice to the Gen^{ll} for trial but cant Get it we have offerd Bondsman for our apearince. When Ever called or go to Camden our Selves thearfore we pray your Honer would lay our Sitation Before the Genarl Cort from your Humble Ser^{t} by the favour Doc^{t} Shepard

Thomas Town
Francis Ridle

To Coll^{l} Ezra Taler in Boston

Resolve on Certificates From Genl Wadsworth.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 20, 1780

Whereas it appears from two Certificates from Brig^{r} General Wadsworth dated Head Quarters, Falmouth July 18th 1780 That he was under the Necessity of purchasing of Mr Jacob Haskell forty two Bushels of Indian Corn; and of Mr Moses Bradbury forty eight Bushels of Indian Corn at sixty five Dollars the old Currency per Bushel, for the Use of the Troops at Cambden, and as the said Jacob Haskell and Moses Bradbury are Collectors of Taxes for the town of Gloucester in the County of Cumberland, and Collected said Corn of the Inhabitants who were indebted for their Taxes. Therefore Resolved that the Treasurer of this Common Wealth be and he is hereby Authorized & Directed to Discharge the Said Jacob Haskell for the sum of Eight Hundred & nineteen pound; and the said Moses Bradbury the sum of Nine Hundred & thirty six pounds out of the Taxes due from them as Collectors of Taxes for the Town & County aforesaid to this Common Wealth; and that the two above Mentioned Sums of the Old Emission be charged to the Continent for the Use of the Troops in the Eastern Department

under the Command of Brig^{d} Genl Wadsworth Any Law or Resolve to the Contrary Notwithstanding

Read & sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

Warrant drawn Novb. 24th 1780

In Senate Nov^{b} 20th 1780

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Pres^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Directing the Treasurer.

Commonwealth of Mass^{tts}

In Senate Nov^{b} 21, 1780

Ordered — That Jahleel Woodbridge Esq. with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to take into Consideration the Overtax of the Town of Washington being much more than their equal Proportion since the last apportionment of Taxes upon the several Towns of this Commonwealth in Consequence of the Representation made by said Town and to report what may be proper to be done thereon —

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presid^{t}

In the House of Representatives Novr 21: 1780

Read & concurred & Capt Bonney & Mr. Bacon are joined

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

The Committee of Both Houses appointed to Consider the over Tax of the Town of Washington have attended that Service and beg leave to Report the following Resolve —

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate November 23rd 1780

Whereas it appears by a Resolve of the General Court of this State of June 14th 1780 that the Town of Washington

in the last Valuation was Deemed a much Larger Sum than was their just proportion of said Valuation and whereas it further appears that by said Resolve the Treasurer of this Commonwealth was Directed to Credit the Said Town of Washington a Sum Equal to one third part of the Taxes set upon s^d^ Town from the Last Valuation to the said 14th Day of June, and whereas it appears that the same Disproportion still Continues to opperate — Therefore

Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be and he is hereby Directed to Credit the Town of Washington a Sum Equal to the Amount of one Third part of all the Taxes set upon the said Town of Washington since the 14th Day of June Last —

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Pres^t^

In the House of Representatives Nov. 24 1780

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Spk^r^

Approv'd John Hancock

*Letter From Honble B. Chadbourn Esqr*

Berwick Novr 22^d^ 1780

S^r^

I had the Honor last evening to receive Your Excellency's favour of ye 11th Ins^t^ in which I was summoned to attend at the Council Chamber in Boston to assist the Governor in the executive part of Government agreeable to my appointment.

Some few days before I rec^d^ a letter from ye Secretary informing me of my appointment but neither of them reach'd me for more than ten days after they were wrote & at ye same time was inform'd that a recess of ye General Court was like-

ly soon to take place — Some difficulty arose in my mind ab^{t} accepting on account of my incapacity to so important a Trust added to my Bodily infirmities ye great distance I am from ye seat of Government the difficulty of Journeying & being from home at this season of the Year were great impediments in my way but when I consider'd it to be ye voice of so respectable a Body as ye Senate & House of Representatives that called me to it I have concluded to accept of the appointment & do the Commonwealth all ye Service in my power — but looking into ye Constitution & finding that the Council must subscribe ye Declaration therein required in presence of the two Houses of Assembly I found it impracticable for me to get to Boston before the recess took place (depending on what I had heard) but determined to attend ye opening of the next Session — but if any inconveniency is likely to arise by my not attending sooner & Court continues Setting I chearfully leave it with the two Houses of Assembly if they see fit to elect some other Person in my stead And whether I have the Honor & pleasure to assist the Govenor in Council or not You may be assured that it is my earnest desire that Your Excellency in Your Administration may be directed & succeeded from Heaven — Your Council may have y^{t} Wisdom which is profitable to direct The Legislative Body may be actuated from such principles as shall 'tend to make the People of this Commonwealth happy the Judicial part may be compos'd of Men of learning & integrity that our laws may be rightly interpreted & Justice equally distributed among the People & every single Magistrate may so act that He may be a terror to ye evil doer & a praise to them that do well. And wether in public or private life what influence I have shall be employ'd among the People of my acquaintance in promoting Industry & Frugality to cultivate peace Harmony & good Order & a due subordination to the powers of

Government Happy that Rulers may be wise & prudent & the People good & happy I have the Honor to be your Excellency's most Ob^{t} H Servant

Benj^{a} Chadbourn

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

Saml Rittal to Governor and Council.

To His Excelency the Governor & the Honor^{ble} Council of the Comonwealth of Massachusetts Bay in New England — Humbly Sheweth

That I am in Goal at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland & taken out of my house at Pownalborough & without a fault & am Denied the Knowledge of who Complained, or of any Crime Charged on me and here left in Goal, in Great Distress, both for my Selfe my wife & Children, Great part of them are Small — the Charge & Expence I am at 60 miles Distant from them, will bring me & my famulty to poverity and Distruction & I Know of no fault that I ever Committed against the State or Broake any of the Laws, I have paid my Taxes & paid my part of large bounties to hier men & my Son went into the Service & my Selfe for some time,— I am Denied the Knowledge of my accusors, or the Charge of any fault I have Committed;— the within petition of my wifes &c is True,— I most Humbly — Pray your Honours to Liberate me from Goal and Bonds, and Leet me Return to my Distressed famely and I as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray

Samuel Rittal

Falmouth Goal Novr 23th 1780

A Grant of £146 3–7 to Col^{o} John Allan.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 24, 1780

Resolved that there be paid out of the public Treasury of this Commonwealth to Col^{o} John Allen Superintendent of the

Indians in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth, the Sum of one Hundred forty six Pounds three shillings and seven pence (New Emission) in full of the Ballance of his accounts to the first Day of June 1780 as certified by the Committee for methodizing & settling accounts **A**

Caleb Davis Spk^r

Sent up for Concurrence

In Senate Novr 24th 1780

Read & concurred with an Amendment at **A** viz at **A** insert said Sum to be charged to the United States

Sent down for concurrence

Approv'd Jer Powell Presi^dt

John Hancock Warrant drawn

27 Nov^b 1780

In the House of Representatives Novr 25: 1780

Read & concurred with the proposed amendment

Caleb Davis Spk^r

Report of Committee on Col. Allan's Petition.

Commonwealth Mass^ts

In Senate Novr 24th 1780

The Committee of both Houses, appointed to take into Consideration Col. John Allan's Letter to His Excellency the Governor, relative to the Indian Eastern Department, and other Papers accompanying the same, and to make Report what may be proper to be done thereon, have attended that Service; and upon careful Enquiry into the affair are clearly of Opinion, that the Support & Defence of the Eastern Department, referr'd to in s^d Letter, is an Object of great Importance to the United States, and worthy of very particular attention:—

Therefore ask Leave to Report as their Opinion, that it is necessary that a Company of forty Men (Officers included)

be raised by Inlistment from the Militia in s^d^ Department in Addition to the Company of Artillery already there:— to be in Service from the 25th of December to the 25th of April next — That Clothing, Provision, & Ammunition necessary for the Supply of s^d^ Men & Garrison, be speedily provided & forwarded to Col. Allan at Machias:— And that some suitable Person be appointed, priviliged with an exclusive Right of supplying, & trading with the Indians in s^d^ Department, agreable to such Rules and Regulations as the General Court shall prescribe and ordain — and to be under the Inspection of the Superintendant of Indian Affairs, in s^d^ Indian Department — And your Committee are further of Opinion, that the Letter above mentioned, and the other papers accompanying the same, be forwarded to Congress — together with a Representation of the Importance of defending the s^d^ Eastern Department, and the Reasonableness & Propriety of its being done at the Expence of the United States — and requesting that Congress would signify their Pleasure relative to the same — and that a Committee be appointed to bring in proper Resolves relating to the Matters contained in this Report all which is submitted.

Jos. Dorr per Order

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives Novr 24: 1780

Read & Concurred & Mr Barrett Mr Esterbrook & Mr Burrill are appointed to bring in Resolves for s^d^ Purpose

Petition of J^s^ Avery

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

James Avery Agent for Col^o^ Allen

Humbly Sheweth

That Colo Allan has sent the Schooner Neashquowoite, belonging to the Public, from Machias to this place, for the purpose of Carrying Stores for the Garrison & Indians there, and as said Schooner wants some small repairs before she will be in a condition for said Service — Your Petitioner Therefore Humbly prays your Honors wou'd be pleased to Direct the Board of War, to have said Schooner Repaired for the purpose before mentioned & your petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Ja^{s} Avery

Boston Novr 25th 1780

Report on the Accounts of Lemuel Weeks & Clement Lemon.

The Committee to hume was Committed the Accounts of Lemuel Weeks and Clement Lemon, praying for Allowance for their Losses thay sustained at Penobscot, have atended that service and find by a Resolve of the Honble Council passed July 3^{d} 1779 Making provision that all Captors at Penobscot should be for the officers & men.

Your Committee are of oppinnon that nither the officers or Privets either by Sea or Land, are Intitled to any Allowance from this State for any Losses they may have sustained in said expedition

Genl. Wadsworth to John Hancock.

Thomaston 28th Novr 1780

Sir

After congratulating your Excellency on your Accession to the chief Seat of Government, & the Commonwealth on your having made the Very Points of its true Interest your im-

mediate Concern; I beg leave to represent to your Excellency that the time for which the troops in the Quarter are rais'd expires, in general, by the end of next month & a considerable Number now on the Ground must be discharg'd before that time being entirely unfit for service for want of Clothing.

That the Quartermaster's Department both at this Place & Falmouth have been destitute of Money during the past season, by which the Credit of the State has suffered much & the Fortifications at Falmouth been greatly retarded. It seems necessary that these amounts should be spedily discharged as well on the Principles of Policy as Justice. The Quartermaster at this post resign'd the last of Sept. since which time there has been none, tho one is very much wanted.

The Troops in this Quarter have their rations dealt in Beef & bread, or bread-kind, only. Could measures be taken for procuring Vegitables, the State would Save an Expence & the Soldier receive a Benefit. A proper person appointed & Supplied with Money to procure the Several Articles continually wanted in the Quartermasters & Commissary's Line, that might be had in this part of the Country would not only make a Saving in the first Cost, but, of the risk & expence of transportation: Besides it would give a Supply of money into the hands of the people of which at present they are very destitute.

The Appointment of a Paymaster to this Department with money to pay of the Wages &c of the Troops, without putting the Officers to the Expence of obtaining it from Boston would greatly serve the present & encourage any future service

The Surgeon at this post has serv'd his own private medicine for the use of the Troops, none having been Supplied by the States; & the Troops at Falmouth have been attended by a private Surgeon & Physician there having been none appointed to that Corps, I request therefore directions in what way these amounts are to be Settled.

I have directed Lieut. Coll. Prime to disband that part of his regiment stationed at Falmouth at the End of this Month; the Season for Fortification being over; wood not to be had but by impressing it; the men being destitute of Clothing & other Conveniences not to Say Necessaries & their time of Service nearly expir'd. I have the Pleasure to acquaint your Excellency that Lieu^{t} Col^{l} Prime in his Command, has done the highest Honour to the Militia of Massachusetts, in the exact Discipline & good order of his Troops & his unwearied Attention to the Good of the Service.

The Engineer also has shewn the greatest Care & Attention to his department & has my Direction to report to your Excellency the State of the Fortifications at this Post.

The Fortifications & Military Stores at Falmouth are now guarded by Capt Lieu^{t} Moore who has the Command of the Matrosses, the only troops remaining there. The Inclosed is a return of the Troops & a Schedule of Sundry Articles wanted here in the Commissary & Quartermasters Department; but as some of these Articles cannot arive in Season for the Service of the present Troops, I mean them rather to point out what may be necessary for future service.

And here with the Discharge of the Troops now on the Ground, I also request a discharge from this Command; finding myself quite unequal to the Task, where there are some Intricacies, more perplexities & much Service to be done & permit me to say, but very little to do with.

At the same time I would strongly recommend that a new regiment be immediately rais'd for this Place & Machias, as a Discontinuance of Troops in this Quarter even in the Winter Season whilst the Enemy hold a Post at Bagaduce will be fatal to the County; Besides a regiment will be rais'd with less Expence at this Season for twelve months, than in the Spring for Seven or eight; it will keep the Minds of the Inhabitants (which are already in motion with the Idea of being

left) from wavering & the Enemy Still. And I would recommend that it Should be rais'd by voluntary Inlistment rather than by draught if it should be tho't advisable to make an Establishment equal to the purpose, & the following I will venture to propose as such, vizt a Suit of Cloths Bounty & ten Dollars p^{r} Month the Wages to be paid at least Quarterly. If this Measure Should be adopted, the men that are deficient of the last Draught of the three Eastern Counties might be Ordered here whilst others can be rais'd on the new Establishment. Let the Commanding Officer here Muster them & have the Bounty to deliver on Mustering. This regiment might be under good Discipline by the opening of Spring & ready for early Service.

But the reduction of the Enemy at Bagaduce would at once put an end to all after Reparations & tho the Expence would be considerable at first it would be more than Sav'd in the End, & I think the Importance of this County to the States would justify, nay, demand, the undertaking. The Success of a Coupe de Main in the Winter would be rather too uncertain as their Fortification is in a good Posture of Defence & their Troops quartered in the Fort: but I can conceive of but one object (vizt to Establish the Grand Army) of more Importance in the Spring not only to this but the United States, than the reduction of the Enemy at Bagaduce & securing this County on which so immediately depends the resources of our future Greatness, Lumber & Fishery; not to mention the Amazing Tract of the finest Soil that would soon Spring into improvment on the Settlement of a happy Peace.

I hope for Pardon, if I am mistaken in my Conjecture that the Commonwealth, as such, is not fully sensible of the vast Importance of these eastern Countries, without which, our future Navy, that may rule the World, will cut but a trifling Figure.

The Enemys Cruisers have been very frequent on this Coast of late, & have captured many Coasters & Small Craft, some of which have been recovered; & two Coasters have been ransom'd after being carried to port by my Permission, tho on further Consideration I am much dissatisfy'd with my Conduct in that respect & request to know if it ought to be permitted in any Case.

As Brevity is not my Talent, I beg that it may be considered as an Excuse for the Leangth of this Letter, & have the Honour to Subscribe myself, with great respect Sir

Your Excellencys most obedient & most humble Servant

Peleg Wadsworth B. G.

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

Governor & Commander in Chief of Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Jany 6th 1781

Read & committed to Thos Rice Esqr with such as the Honorable House shall join to take the same into consideration & report

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presid^{t}

In the House of Representatives Jany 6, 1781

Read & concurred & Major Lithgow & Mr Wells are joined

Caleb Davis Speaker

Ezra Taylor to the General Court.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts } To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives in Generall Court Assembled at Boston Novr 28th 1780

Humbly Sheweth —

Ezra Taylor of Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln for & in Behalf of said County — That the Same County is Bounded on the Sea Coasts about Two hundred miles in Length, and Continually Exposed to be attackt Plundered and Distressed by British Ships of War as well as small Boats & Barges, with which our Sea Coasts are Continually Infested, That the British Troops have allready availed themselves of a Very advantage[s] Post allmost in the Heart of said County where they have Strongly fortified themselves & have a very Large & Commodious harbour for Ships from which we are Constantly in danger, and often Plundered & Rob[d] boath by Sea & Land and our houses and other buildings burnt & distressed, That on the more northern Parts of said County at the heads of our Rivers we Lay for a vast Length open & Exposed to the ravages of the Canadians who are well acquainted with that part of the Country & the advantagous Streams that Leade Directly into the midest of us and are often makeing Excurtions that way By means whereof we have been often alarm[d] and Called to arms, That about one hundred famelys in the year past have moved out of the County over on the Western Side of Kenebeck river and to other places of greater safety and that one of our Towns is Intirely Depopulated & not one family Left in it, That in the Year pasts about four fifths of our militia were Imployed in that Ingloryous Expedition to Major Bagadooss & in garding our Sea Coasts & Defenceless Exposed Settlement after the Defeat of the army. That in the present year about one half the militia from the Interiour parts of the County were raised for the same — Duty for the Term of Eight months which Caused a Tax on the Severall Towns about as Large as the Largest State Tax that has been Laid upon us, That the Time of said men as well as all those from other parts under the Comand of Generall Wadsworth will Expire in about a month and then we shall have nothing to Defend us

but our own Militia & a kind Providence, That the County is now reduced to poverty & distress and that out of forty nine Coasting Vessells we have but one Left in the County, this now is our unhapy and Dangerous Scituation — but bad as it is we are Determined not to give up so valueable a part of this Commonwealth so long as we can have there favor & Assistance but Should we now be called upon to raise the Quota of Men Set to us by the Late resolve for filling up the Continentall army it would be Impossable for us to Comply therewith for we have no money nor way nor means to procure any to hire men with, nor any men that Can be Spared without Leaveing us in a most Dangerous & Defenceless State Exposed to the ravages of a watchfull & Enterprizeing Enemy Wherefore your Petitioner prays in behalf of said County that they may be Excused from raiseing the aforesaid Quota of men, and that Such Small Exertions as they are able to make may Enure to the preservation of their own Lives and properties and the Salvation of so valuable a part of this Common Wealth &c

Resolve Requesting the Governor to Write to Congress.

The Committee appointed to bring in Resolves in Conformity to the report of a Committee of both Houses, on the Letter of Col. John Allen, Commander of the Garrison of Machias & Superintendant of the Indian Eastern Department, of the 2d instant, with the Papers accompanying the same; and also on the Petition of James Avery, Agent to the said Allen, relative to the Repairs of the Schooner Nearquowait; have attended that Service and take Leave to report the following Resolves, vizt

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Nov 28: 1780

Whereas the Support and Defence of the Eastern Department of this Commonwealth, & the Commerce & Friendship of the Several Tribes of Indians within the same and in the vicinity thereof, are of great Importance to the United States, it is resolved,

That his Excellency the Governor be & he hereby is requested to transmit to Congress Copies of the Letter received from Col John Allen Superintendant of the Eastern Indian Department of the 2d instt & of the Papers accompanying the same, containing the state of the Garrison, with the several official Returns, and also to represent, in the fullest Manner possible, the Importance of the said Department to the States in General; with the Propriety & Reasonableness of Supporting & Defending the said Department at the Expence of the United States; and to request of Congress to signify as soon as may be their Determination respecting the same—

A And whereas it is necessary to augment the Garrison of Machias, within the said Department, it is resolved, That the Commanding Officer of the same be & he hereby is directed immediately to issue his orders for inlisting from among the Militia within the said Department, a Company consisting of forty Men, Officers included, to be in addition to the Artillery Company already inlisted & doing Duty at the said Garrison, to be under the same Command and to be and continue in the said Service from the 25th Day of December next ensuing to the 25 Decb 1781

And it is further resolved, That the Board of War be & they hereby are directed to provide, as speedily as possible such Quantities of Clothing, Provisions, Arms and Ammunition as the Governor & Council shall direct for the Supply of the said Men, & for the further Supply of the Garrison of Machias & its Dependencies—and that they make the neces-

sary Repairs on the Schooner Nearquowait of Boston, & forward in the same the said Clothing Provision Arms & Ammunition without Loss of Time under Care of Lieut: James Avery, Agent to Col. John Allen, Superintendant to the Eastern Indian Department

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk[r]

In Senate November 29th 1780

Read & Concurred Jer: Powell Presid[t]

Approv'd John Hancock

A Also Resolved that his Excellency the Governor with the advice of Councill be Impowered & requested to Licence some Suitable person to have an Exclusive right to Trade with & Suply the said Indians in the Eastern Department with Necessaries until the further order of the Gen[l] Court to be under such orders & Regulations as the Gov[r] & Councill shall think Necessary for & consistant with the publick Safty

Thomas Town to Col. Taylor.

Falmouth Gole Nov[r] 23[d] 1780

Sr these Lines from your Destrest frind — hear Confind, for what I Dont know. nor Cant find out. Thearfore I pray your Honour would Lay a pitison before the Genril Cort with M[r] Rittles for me as we weare taken to Gather and Confind conterey to the Bill of Rites — for I live 40 miles from the See Shore. We have Desired the Maj[r] twice to Rite to the Gen[ll] for a trial but have had no answer yet. Sr I sufer to hear and my wife and Children att home wich is very Distressing Sr your Compiance with the within Request will Gaitly oblige your Humble Se[t]

Thomas Town

To Coll[l] Ezra Taler

P[s] Sr I will Satisfie you for all your Trouble

Report.

State of Massachusetts Bay

April 27th 1780:

The Committee of both Houses on the letters from Brigadier General Wadsworth and Peter Noyes, & the resolve of Congress of the 8th inst. report, that they have enquired of the Board of War respecting the supply of Provisions, Intrenching tools & whale-boats ordered for the Eastern Department, & are of opinion that what Provisions & Intrenching tools are sent, and ready to be sent, are all that could immediately be obtained, and will be sufficient for the preasent; a Schedule whereof is now presented: Measures are taken that the Whale-boats agreed for be built with all possible dispatch & that they, with those already procured be forwarded as soon as may be. And as by ye Resolve aforesaid, Continental pay & rations are to be allowed to any body of Militia not exceeding Eight hundred men, which this State may judge necessary to be raised for the defence of the Eastern Department, Your Committee report that the Continental Quarter Master General & Issuing Commissary of Provisions be requested to replace such articles as have been supplied by the Board of War for the purpose above mentioned that come within their respective departments, & to furnish such supplies as may be further wanted for the Eastern department.

Your Committee think it expedient that two Eighteen pounders and three Four pound Field pieces with thirty rounds each be sent to Falmouth, and a Leiut & twenty Mattrosses to strengthen that Post, and that an Engineer be appointed and directed to repair there as soon as may be. That Brigidier Cushing be directed to deliver to Brigadier Wadsworth or his order, so many of the Firearms returned into him from the late Expedition at Penobscot, as he shall

apply for, taking said Wadsworths receipt to be accountable for the same.

Your Committee further report that so many of the Whaleboats procured, be forwarded as will be necessary to transport the Troops destined for Machias, to that place, & that the said Troops be embarked under the direction of General Wadsworth. To alter the regulation of the Post from Falmouth to Boston, Your Committee apprehend will expedite intelligence & not much encrease the expence, for wch purpose have prepared the Resolve accompanying this report. All which is submitted.

John Pitts p order

In Council April 27, 1780

Read & Sent down

John Avery D. Sec

Petition in Behalf of Andrew Gilman.

To the Honorable Senate & Hon^l House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The petition of Col^o Josiah Brewer a Truck Master to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians in behalf of Lieu^t Andrew Gilman Interpreter to the said Tribe — Humbly sheweth,—

That the said Gilman has been in the Service (by your Honors orders) in the above Capacity these five Years past — And your Petitioner really beleives has been of great Service in keeping the Indians (who are very fond of him) peaceably disposed towards us — That your Honors were pleased to make an Establishment of £18 p^r m^o and a Suit of Cloaths gratis in Octr 1779 for his past Services — That he now has upwards of a twelve months Wages due him & is desirous of receiving the same in order to purchase necessarys to enable

him to live Comfortably wth the Indians the ensuing winter —he being at present entirely destitute of all manner of Cloathing which prevented his personal application to your Honors for this purpose—Your Petitioner therefore in behalf of the said Gilman prays your Honors to make such an Establisment according to the Depreciation of the Currency for his Service for the time past & to come as your Honors in your Goodness shall think his Services Merits

Josiah Brewer

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Dece^{r} 4 1780

On The Petition of Leu^{t} Andrew Gillman Interpreter to the Penobscut Tribe of Indians Praying allowance for his services as Set forth in his said Petition Beg leave To Report by way of Resolve Viz^{t}

Resolved that there be paid out of the Publick Treasury of this Common Wealth the sum of fifteen Pounds Ten shilling of the New Money in full for his Services to this day

Nathl Thwing to Col. Hutchinson.

Boston Decr 11th 1780

Sir You may doubtless remember my shewing you a petition from Deacon Sawyer, and Agreable to your desire I have left it with Col^{o} Dawes I here inclose you a Copy of a Warrant for a Town meeting for the purposes mentioned in the petition which Deacon Sawyer informed me was over thrown by means of the person who was their former Treasurer I should think it would not be necessary for any person to appear before the Committee as they could say no more than what the petition says, and as they pray for nothing more than to have a Committee appointed to enquire into & settle their publick Town affair, I should think it

might be done as well as if any person was present, though I would not be thought to dictate, I have proposed to Col° Dawes that you might be nominated one of the Committee: as I am now going out of Town I inclose the Copy be delivered to you. I would just mention the names of the persons Deacon Sawyer desired might be appointed a Committee Viz^t Nathl Thwing Dummer Sewall & Waterman Thomas Esq^rs

I am Sir in behalf of Deacon Sawyer
Your Hum^l Servt
Nathl Thwing

Col° Israel Hutchinson
Present

Letter of Col. Allan.

Machias December 15th 1780

Dear Sir

Your favour of the 10th Ult° arrived at Machias the 24th my being absent among the Indians & Capt Andrews Neglect of forwarding by Express, did not receive it till the 7th inst.—

I returned a few days ago from my Indian Bout tho I underwent the greatest difficultys for want of provisions & Craft, still I accomplished my business with the St Johns Indians (who went of Last Summer) and others to my sanguine wishes. The Revd Father which has Come is Extremely well Calculated, gives the Indians great satisfaction, we Both return in Six days about half way to St Johns for a Genl Conference of Deputys from Each tribe & to keep Christmas which is a peculiar Festival, But to you I go in a manner Intirely Incompatable with the Nature of my business, I must Intirely depend upon the favour of a Providence as I have neither Craft provisions nor men to Support & aid me in the business, The Importance of it is such that it Can-

not be Dispenced, tho This part is in danger of surprise during my absence — I can freely declare I feel nothing for myself personaly, and am Determined to pursue my duty — but the Event is uncertain and I feel Troubled for the fate of things this way if supplys does not shortly Arrive, I beg you will write the Governor to press the supplys, as my time will not permit me — ¶ This goes by head Quarters, with the most of Captain Andrews Comp^{y}. The former Can Acquaint you of different matters, some difficultys Arises with their Commander, they Incline not to go with him, tho I have had a small Vessell prepared sometime, I was sanguine at first for their Going, but since I find it more Expedient for them to go By Land — had no procession here or an appearance of it, most of this Comp^{y} wou^{d} stop, they are also Naked and a long winter before them and indeed I feel much troubled about their Geting along —

Capt Andrews will go in one of the Whale Boats — the other is at Passamaquody — the severty of the wether during the time I was there, the Nakedness of the men, and the Whale Boat out of repair, I thought it best to Leave her, when a suitable opp^{o} shall forward it —

I am much obliged to you for the news Paper, but I never had the Chance of seeing it.—

I wish you Every happiness & am with respect & Esteem

Dr Sir y^{r} Very hb. S^{t}

J Allan

Petition of James Avery.

To His Excellency the Governor and the Hon'ble Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

The Petition of James Avery Agent for Colo John Allen Commanding Officer at Machias — Humbly Sheweth —

That, the last letters your Petitioner rec^{d} from said Colo Allan, he informed him, that they were nearly Destitute of Provisions & other Stores for the Troops at that place, and Directed your petitioner to Dispach the Schooner Neash'quo'-woite with such Stores, as your Excell^{y} & Honors might think proper to Direct as soon as possible.

Therefore your Petitioner Humbly prays your Excellency & Honors wou'd be pleased to Take the Matter into your wise Consideration & take such orders thereon, as in your wisdom may think proper — and your petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Ja^{s} Avery

Boston Decr 19th 1780

Mem^{o} of what is wanting immediately for the Troops at Machias & Indians

30 Blankets 20 Stands of Arms 500 ^{w} Powder 300 ^{w} Balls (Musquet) 500 ^{w} Shott 1 Hhd Rum New Engl^{d} Three Months Rations for 50 Men.

as the Great Difficulty attends in Sending matters During the winter Season, it is absolutely Necessary for the above to be forwarded as soon as possible —

A person to be Licenced for the Indian Trade

Ja^{s} Avery Agent for Colo Allan

Action on Petition of James Avery.

The Commonwealth of Mass^{tts}

In Council Decemb. 20^{t} 1780

Advised that the Board of War be and they hereby are directed to deliver Mr James Avery Agent to Col^{o} John Allen Commander in the Eastern Department, thirty Blankets twenty Stand of Arms, five hundred W. of Powder three hundred W. of Musquet Balls, five hundred W. of Shot, One

Hh^{d} New England Rum and three Months Rations for fifty Men for the Supply of the Garrison and its Dependences agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court of the 29 November last — he to be Accountable for the aforesaid Articles.

John Hancock

Letter From General Wadsworth.

Thomaston 23^{d} Decr 1780

Sir

I have this day the honour of your Excellencys of the 13th Inst: inclosing the Petition of Lucy Rittall; & as it is not in my Power to make the Enquiry your Excellency was pleased to order, at this Juncture; to prevent the deepening of an unfavourable Impression till the Matter can be fully try'd, I beg leave to lay before your Excellency a brief State of Facts.

There are a considerable Number of Persons in this Quarter who uniformly discourage & discountenance every public Measure adopted by the States, as well by their general Conversation as by positive inimical Acts. Kennebeck River is not free from persons of this Sort. Frequent Applications were made to me in September by approv'd Friends to the Cause for a party to be sent there to suppress this growing Evil & to apprehend the principals. Knowing the Indiscretions apt to be run into on like Occasions, I did not care to trust the Commission to any Officer I could then Spare, but intended soon to hear & see the utmost of the matter myself. Accordingly having Occasion to visit the Settlement on the head of Sheepscutt River towards the End of Sep^{t}, I took Kennebeck in my Rout to Falmouth & after I had made the best Enquiry I was able quite to the head of the Tide, of the undoubted Upholders of our Cause, I gave Orders to Lieu^{t}

McLellan to proceed with a party & to apprehend five, who (I supposed & still suppose) were the Instigators of every evil Work (amongst which Francis Rittal was one) & to join me at the mouth of the River, which he did, excepting that two of the five were out of the way & could not be found, Being bound to Falmouth & Boston & having no comfortable place of Confinement at Thomaston where they were to be tried, & the weather coming on cool, I thot best to take them to Falmouth for Confinement under Guard till my return to Thomaston & then to give them a fair Trial. On my Return to Thomaston from Boston by Water about the middle of Octr having an exceeding fine Wind, I did not Stop at Falmouth, & finding it necessary on my arival here to employ my whole Attention, men & Officers to prevent the ravaging parties of the Enemy which at that Season were very Active, I could not with any Convenience order a Court Martial, the prisoners still remaining under Guard at Falmouth excepting one, who, on Account of Indisposition was admitted to Bonds after two or three days Confinement.

Towards the End of Nov. finding that I should not be able soon to attend the Trial on account of the Avocation of my Officers & a general Destitution of every Sort of Supplies, I sent an order to Lieut Coll Prime at Falmouth to recognize the Prisoners vizt Rittal & Towns in large bonds for there Appearance here when call'd for for Trial & to release them. They were accordingly release'd on the 27 Novr not knowing till I receiv'd your Excellencys Letter that a Petition had been preferr'd against me. I am not Insensible that I am Subject to Errors as other People are, but in the present Case, I do not yet see that I have err'd or offended against the new Constitution (or the old, under which it was chiefly transacted)

The Law Martial is exercised by an act of the State of 25 March last — within its Limits (the Sea flowing fifteen miles

above Pownalborough) These persons have been apprehended, their Crimes drawn & Sign'd in military Form & they have been kept under guard till (finding it impracticable for the present to give them a Tryal) they have been admitted to give Surety for their Appearance when call'd for. I cannot Suppose that a Court martial is to be orderd to Set, purposely, at or near the place where there is a Criminal; but that the Criminal is to be carried to the Court martial, where the parties are examin'd face to face.

If it is Supposeable that the disaffected part of the Community will be ever clamourous against those whose hard lot it is to be Servants of the Commonwealth; I hope there will be reasonable Allowance made for their Representations & I dare challenge any one who is acquainted with the whole List of Signers in favour of the Petition, to pick one good Whigg from the whole Number, which Circumstance I think rather against them as there are Whiggs of Note in the Neighbourhood.

I shall proceed to a Trial by Court Martial as soon as Circumstances will permit, tho I rather hope that this Business will fall to my Successor In the mean time I am Sir, with much Respect your Excellencys most obed^{t} & very humble Servant

Peleg Wadsworth B G

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

Petition of Ebenezer Tinkham.

To the Hon^{bl} the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Gen^{t}: This Petition from Ebenezer Tinkham ye 2nd of Middlebor^{o} in the County of Plymouth Humbly Sheweth: that I the Said Ebe^{r} Tinkham did (on the nineteenth day of June A: d 1779) Volentaryly Inlist under (L:t Hambelton) as a Mareen on Board the Continental Ship Warren; and at

the time of my Said Inlistment I was Promised In case that I was Wounded in battel that I Should be Taken Cair of on the Publicks Cost: after which the Said Ship Warren was ordered on the Penobscut expedition; and in a Battel Ocationed by our Landing at Said Penobscut: on the 28th day of July A: d 1779 I was wounded with Two Balls from the Enemy: by which acsident I was Disinabeled from doing any Labor for about Seven Months and was at Great Expence for docters and for my Surport for which I have Received nothing, but at Length one of Said Balls was Taken out of my Shoulder and I have now by the Goodness of God in a Good Degree Recovered my helth again — and also by Reason of my being wounded I Lost one Coat one wastcoat one Shirt one Pair of Trousers Three Pair of Stockens one Pair of Shoes one Hat and £13–2–0 in money and now Gent my Prayers to your Honrs is: that you would Commisorate my Case and think of the Panes that I have felt & of the Loss of my Time and Cloathing & Estate and Expencis and that you would order me a Competant Reward Such as you in your Wisdome Shall think Equatable and Just: and as I am In duty bound Shall Ever Pray &:c

dated at Middleboro this 26th of Decer 1780

Ebenezer Tinkham ye 2d

This may Certifye that we the Subscribors Selectmen of Middleboro having Sufficiant Reason to beleave the Certainty of the within named Eber Tinkham being wounded and Suffering as is in his Petition Set forth: for Some of us have Seen his Wounds and the Ball that hath been Taken out of his Body since his Return from Said Penobscot Expedition

John Alden
Edward Wood
Thomas Nelson
Isaac Tomson
} Selectmen of said Middleboro

dated at Middleboro this 1d of Janr 1781

Deposition of Joseph Berry.

The Deposition of Joseph Berry of Topsham in the County of Lincoln yeoman, of Lawful age testefieth and saith that on the last Day of August 1775 he was taken prisoner by Captn Dawson Commander of the Hope Schooner in the King of England's service and was put on board the Preston Ship of War & was kept on board three months and then removed on board the Boyn Ship of War & was Sent to England in her, & kept there untill the ninth day of July following & then I made my Escape from said Ship and got to france, & there I Entered on board a Sloop in the Continental Service bound to Philadelphia and in our Passage home s^{d} Sloop was on or about the Last Day of October in 1776. and while I was on board said Ship Capt Bishop Called me aft to examine me & after understanding that I belonged to the Eastward he asked me if I knew one Cargill, I told him that I had Seen him but was not much acquanted with him then the s^{d} Capt Bishop Said he is a Villain and a dam^{d} Rascal, for he has taken some of our vessels, he has taken three of our vessels at Penobscot, he is a Collonel there now; I wish I could Catch him then he Enquired of me what particular place he lived at, but I told him I could not tell — and further saith not —

A Coppy Joseph Berry

Deposition of William Pendleton.

I William Pendleton of a place Called Long Island in the County of Lincoln Gentleman of Lawfull age Testify & Say that Sometime in the month of July A. D 1775 that John Winslow of Boston Came down here To a place Called Long Island out of the Bounds of any Town and in ye County of

Lincoln, in Penobscot Bay in a Transports all Guarded by a man of Warr Shipp Called the Sinigall, who Came to my House, & in Conversation he the said Winslow said he Came for Wood and wanted Wood to load the Transports to Carry up to Boston, further the above named Winslow had a Letter from the Select men of Boston for that purpose & that he Copied That Letter at my house, and sent a Copy of said Letter to the Committee of St Georges, and to the Committee of Camden to acquaint them what Authority he had to apply for Wood, after the said Winslow had sent a copy of his letter to St Georges & to Camden two of Coll Cargills officers Viz^{t} Cap^{tn} Wheaten of St Georges & Captn Gregary of Camden, with the advice of the other officers Came to my house and Desired me to go with them in a private manner to Camden, where I met with Coll: Cargill with a number of ye Militia from there we went for Penobscot Fort in order to Burn & destroy it and to take any Vessells that were loading with Wood in order to go to Boston under the Convoy of the man Warr Shipp called the Sinigal, in our Way to Penobscot we found Captn Peleg Crooker Loading with Wood at Belfast, and the Militia under Coll: Cargill took the said Crooker and the Vessell he was loading and then Took said Crooker & the Vessel up to Penobscot, also the s^{d} Cargill Sent away a number of men in Boats to Major Bagadoose, which men when they Returned Brought four Vessells to us at Penobscot. after the Fort was Destroyed at Penobscot, We Came down the Bay off against Major Bagadoose There We saw the Shipps Lay off Between Fox Island & Long Island, Then I Came down with said Cargill in the Vessell that was taken from s^{d} Crooker with the other Vessells so far as the head of Long Island, and then said Cargill ordered us to come down on the Western or Northern Side of said Island and then left us. The next morning Some of the officers which Belong to Coll. Cargill told me

That he Left orders with them to put me a Shore on long Island where it Suited me to land after that I saw no more of the Shipps nor of Coll: Cargill or the Vessells he had taken at that time or that Voiage. and further saith not

William Pendleton

A True Copy of William Pendleton[s] Deposition to be used at the Superior Court to be holden at Salem on the first Tuesday of Nov[r] A. D. 1777

Sealed up by Benjamin Woodbridge Jus[t] Pacis

Deposition of Benjamin Shaw.

I Benjamin Shaw of North Yarmouth in the County of Cumberland Yeoman of Lawful Age, testify & say that some time in April one thousand seven Hundred & seventy five I was at a Place called Belfast, in the County of Lincoln, a Hand on Board a Sloop called the Nancy, belonging to Peleg Crooker and Stephen Hall then both of Boston, of which the said Peleg was then Master, which said Vessell was then Loaded with Wood & Bound for Boston,— On our Return from said Belfast we put into Falmouth, & at said Falmouth first heard of the Battle at Lexington, fought on the nineteenth Day of April one thousand seven hundred & seventy five — From thence we proceeded with said Vessell to Newbury — and said Crocker went from said Newbury by Land to Charlestown to see if he could get into Boston with said Vessell & from said Charles-town immediately returned on board said Vessell, & proceeded with her to Marblehead, where there then lay a Man of War, called the Lively, & the said Ship Lively immediately sent her Barge along Side of Us, and enquired if we had any Wood to sell, & the said Ship Lively sent her Boat along Side & received several Cords of Wood, for which I saw the said Crooker receive of one of the

Officers of said Ship Lively Thirteen Shillings & four Pence p[r] Cord, then we proceeded with said Vessell to Boston, & unloaded the Remainder of the Wood on Board said Vessell at Stephen Hall[s] Wharff, from which Wharff Wood was frequently carried on Board the Man of War, then lying in the Harbour of Boston,—after which I went two Trips more with said Crooker to said Belfast, & loaded each trip with Cord wood, which said Crooker carried to Boston, & unloaded at said Halls Wharff, & I frequently saw the Officers belonging to the British troops on said Wharff after Wood—The Trips above mentioned were performed between the said Nineteenth of April & the twenty fourth Day of July following, during which Time I was a hand on board said Vessell—and I further say, that we might at any time have gone into Situate or any other Port to the Southward of Boston, during the aforementioned Trips—And the said Stephen Hall was with us the last of said trips, in which we put into Falmouth—And after our Arrival at Boston I was taken on Board the Senigall Man of War, and was told by them that I was recommended as a Pilot—a few days after which said Senigall sailed for Long Island in Penobscot Bay, with four Transport Ships and Three Sloops to procure Cord wood—on Board of one of which Transports, was John Winslow Merchant of Boston, who was Agent for said Fleet, and had a Recommendation from the Selectmen of said Boston to get Wood for the Inhabitants of said Boston—when we arrived at said Long Island we took a considerable Quantity of Wood on Board said Transports, but hearing that the Militia had got on to the Island to assess us, were afraid to tarry to compleat our Load, and immediately left the Island & sailed for Halifax— While we lay at said Long Island, said Winslow procured some live Stock off said Island for the Use of said Fleet which was killed on Board—I the Deponent further say that while I was with

said Crooker, after unloading the first of the beforementioned Freights at Boston, he carried out some Passengers to Situate & Plimouth from whence he sailed for said Belfast for another freight of Wood which he carried to Boston, & was to have carried out more Passengers — but instead of that, We took the said Stephen Hall before named & one Benj[a] Coleman on Board, who acted as Hands (there being no other but they & myself with said Crooker on Board) and proceeded directly again for said Belfast for another Freight of Wood — After we got there I left him one Whole Day because he had not gone to Situate after unloading his last Freight according to his promise — but upon his renewing his Promise to me that he would not go into Boston again, but proceeded directly for Situate, with the Freight of Wood he was then taking on Board, by the permission of the Committee of said Belfast, for that Place — I consented to stir on Board again — but after we were loaded & partly on our Passage he Determined to go into Boston with said Freight of Wood which he accordingly did as before related — and further saith not —

Benjamin Shaw

Cumberland ss. North Yarmouth October 17th 1777.

Then the above named Benjamin Shaw Personally appeared, & being first carefully examined & duely cautioned to testifie the whole Events relating to the Cause hereafter mentioned made solemn Oath to the truth of the above affidavit by him subscribed — being taken to be used in a Maritime Cause to be heard & tried by Appeal at the Superior Court of Judicature &c to be holden at Salem in the County of Essex, on the first Tuesday of November next — wherein James Cargill of Newcastle in the County of Lincoln Esquire and others are Libellants of the Sloop called the Nancy her Cargo & Appertinances & Stephen Hall of Boston in the

County of Suffolk Wharfinger & Peleg Crooker lately of Situate in the County of Plimouth Coaster, are Claimants The said Benjamin Shaw the Deponent living & being from North Yarmouth which is more than Thirty Miles from Salem the Place of Trial, and the said Stephen Hall & Peleg Crooker living & being more than twenty Miles from North Yarmouth the Place of Captain, were not notified nor present — taken according to Law — at the Request of the said James Cargill

Coram David Mitchell Just^c^ Pacis

Endorsed: To the Clerk of the Superior Court of Judicature &c for the State of Mass. Bay The Deposition of Benjamin Shaw of North Yarmouth, taken to be used in a Maritime cause by Appeal at s^d^ Court to be holden at Salem in the County of Essex on the first Tuesday of November A. D. 1777 Wherein James Cargill Esq & others are Libellants & Stephen Hall & Peleg Crooker are Claimants

Sealed & Delivered to the said Cargill at whose Request it was taken

p^r^ David Mitchell J. P.

Selectmen of Thomaston to General Court.

To His Excellency the Governor the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Jany 1781

We the Subscribers Beg Leave to inform your Excellency & Honors that the Selectmen of Thomaston received a Resolve from the great and general Court that this Town Should furnish the Army with cattle well fatted for beef to the amount of three Thousand four Hundred and twenty two pounds or money sufficient to purchase said Cattle. the selectmen immediately called a town meeting and Laid the

Resolve before the Town at a full meeting of the Inhabitants and the Inhabitants seeing the impossibility of procuring the Cattle or the money to purchase them with under our deplorable scituation moved that the Town should Choose a Committee that should make Report what wold be best for the Town to act; thereupon three men were then chosen as a Committee for the porpose the Committee upon Considering the matter see that it was not in the power of the Town to fulfill the Resolve of Court though their wills appeared good and discovered a desire to Do all in their power: the Committee thought best not to deceive the Fathers of this Commonwealth knowing that a disappointment of provisions would be of bad Consequence being so well acquainted with the Circumstances of the Town that if the town Should vote to Suply the quantity of Beef it wold not be in their power and therefore Reported that we are not able to pay the Tax now Laid upon us at present, and therefore think proper to acquaint the Court of our inability and to Choose a Commitee for that purpose.—

We being a Committee for that purpose Desire to inform your Excellency Honors the whole Truth of the affare: First thare is not one fat Beast in this Town — nor in the three towns on St Georges River also our Cattle are very much thinned not more than a quarter part of the usual Number Left and the Want of English Hay and grain prevents Stall feeding any: the fall of the year is the only Time we have any that can be called Beef and provision is so scarce here now that if it was equally distributed to each Family There is not Enough in the Town to Last may out: secondly money is very scarce here and there is not any prospect of its being plentier as all our Coasters are stopped not one Vessel Left belonging to this River and the Cruisers are so plenty that Vessels Cannot come in from other plases to Carry away our Lumber which is the only way we used to have to bring money

among us and if that Buisenes, conteners to be stopped we cannot pay our taxes and our fameles must suffer: But if it were possibel that two or three armed Veseles Could Cruise on the eastern shore to protect the Costers or Costing Business money would grow plenty and then we could pay our Taxes as well as other Towns and Exept that can be effected we cant mack any great assistance which we are verey sorry for = Thirdly: we cannot send any Boats a fishing but they are all Robbed or taken by the Enemy and if any boats happens to comm into this River with provision the price of every article is so high we Cannot purchase much: and also Last Winter we Were obliged to keep a guard at Camden and furnished them with provision until thay were Released by General Wadsworth's arrival: These are the Cause from which our present Inability of paying our Taxes at present ariseth, all which are Humbly Submitted to the Consideration of your Excellency and Honors by

Nath[ll] Fales
Jeremiah Tolman
Rich[d] Kating } Committee
Isaac Washburn
Daniel Morse

In Senate March 5th 1781
Read & Sent down

Jer: Powell Presi[dt]

Petition of Selectmen of Pepperellborough to General Court.

To the Honorab[le] Senate and Honorab[l] House of Representatives of of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Pepperrellborough in the County of York in behalf of the Inhabitants of Said Town — Humbly Shews That your Petitioners was and are Still of Opinion when the Last Valuation was Settled,

that the Town of Pepperrellboro was Set Higher in s^{d} Valuation then its Due proportion with ye Neighbouring Towns after we had made Two Taxes we found our Taxes was much higher on farms of Equal Value with Farms in ye Adjacent Towns and should Immediately Petition the Honble General Court for Releif had it not have been for an Order of Court for a new valuation and a Promise to those Towns that Was set too high in the Last: that Equal Justice shou'd be done them in the next — We have Ever Since the Afores'd Valuation Done what has been in our Power to do toward Paying of Taxes and Raising men &c for the Service of the United States as well as for this Common Wealth as we have done ever since the Commencement of the present war and we are of Opinion that no Town has furnished the armies with more men than the town of Pepperrellbor^{o} has, agreable to the Number of Inhabints thereof: on Every Occassion in the year 1777 the Continental army was Raised for three years on or During the war every Seventh man was Called for our Towns Proportion was Twenty Seven but instead thereof Thirty Eight inlisted and went in the army which was Eleven more than our Quota out of which eleven only had Returned, the Remainder we Suppose Must be Still in ye army During ye war or Dead — but according to ye best Enquiry we can Make we suppose we have now our Quota of Men in the Continental army — and to our Great Grief your Petitioners Find ye Town of Pepperrellbor^{o} Called upon by a Resolve of this Common Wealth Decr 3^{d} 1780 for more men than an Equal proportion with Other Towns in this County — and also in the Last Beef Tax we have added to us a considerable Quantity of Beef more than Our Proportion of Taxes as they Stand Agreable to ye Last Valuation — We Wou^{d} here Inform your Honors to Account for the addition of men for ye army and Beef upon this Town we are unable Wherefore we Pray your Honor to Take under Consideration ye Dis-

tress ye Town of Pepperrellbor^o^ is likely to be in by being overburdened by ye afores^d^ Resolve and last Beef Tax as well as by ye Last Valuation Act and Grant Such Releif as in your Great Wisdom you Shall See Meet and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c

Richd Burke } Select Men of Pepperrellbor^o^
Humphry Pike }

Pepperrellbor^o^ January 1st 1781

Petition of Nathl Green Moody.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts. To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Nathaniel Green Moody late of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland humbly Sheweth — ¶ That your Petitioner did on the fourteenth Day of October 1766 Mortgage a lot of Land on which he Dwelt containing forty Square Rods with the Buildings thereon to Jonathan Sewell Esqr late of Charlestown an Absentee for one hundred and fifty Pounds thirteen Shillings and Eight pence that in the Destruction of the Town by Capt Mowat your Petitioner lost all his Buildings which were very Valuable — ¶ That your Petitioner was at that time Clerk of the Town and one of the Committee and was obliged to attend the Town Meeting to Consult the Safety of the whole Community that he Ordered his Family to Carry the Town Record out of Town at all Events tho' they neglected their own Effects which was Comply'd with whereby it was put out of the Power of your Petitioner or his Family to save many things and on that account Lost to a Large amount which they might Otherways have saved that your Petitioner Applied to the Town for Compensation who replied that they were not able to do

any thing for him by all which means your Petitioner has been Reduced to Poverty and Distress your Petitioner therefore prays your honors to order the Mortgage to be Cancelled that he may sell it for the small sum it will fetch that he may be enabled to support hims'lf and Family and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever Pray

Nat. Green Moody

In Senate Jany 6th 1781

Read & ordered that Jed^{h} Preble Esqr with such as the Honorable House shall join be a Committee to take into consideration this Petition & report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence Jer: Powell, Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Jany 6: 1781

Read & concurred & Col^{o} Grow & Mr Wells are joined

Caleb Davis Speaker

The Committee of both Houses appointed to take into consideration the above said Petition beg leave to report that the petitioner N. G. Moody have leave to withdraw his petition

Jedediah Preble p^{r} order

In Senate Jany 11th 1781

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Memorial of Town of Cape Elizabeth.

The Honourable Senate and the Honourable House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

January 1781

This Memorial Humbly Sheweth: That we Your Memorialists The Selectmen of the Town of Cape Elizabeth in said Common Wealth: Do in behalf of Said Town beg

leave to lay Before your Honours Sundry Grievences under which this Town Labours, and that it is our Duty in Justice to our Selves in this way to Apply our Selves To the Honourable Court for Redress — ¶ But before we proceed beg leave to Say (which we can in Justice do) that ever since the Commencement of the Just and Necessary war (on our part) with Great Britain, For the Security and Enjoyment of our rights and Priviledges, we have with Great unanimity and Chearfullness Comply[d] with all the orders of Court for the raising men Money and Cloathing for the Carrying on of the war as far as we were able, and that we are Still willing and Determined in a Just proportion with our Fellow Subjects in General to Support the war with our lives and Fortunes to the last Extremity — ¶ The Greviences are as Followeth Viz[t] — Ever Since the Year 1778 when the Valuation was Taken this Town has paid for one Hundred Polls more than there were in the Town at that time, nor is our paying for said Polls all the Difficulty we Labour under on that account, For we Justly suppose that when men and Cloathing are Call'd for that we are obliged to raise a Greater number of men and an undue proportion of Cloathing on that account, which has Greatly Exhausted and brought us very low — We also beg leave to Inform the Honourable Court that our loss of men in the Army and at sea (agreeable to a list herewith Exhibited) has been Exceeding Great which has so greatly augmented the number of Poor Widows and Orphan Children amongst us that none who are Touch[d] with fealings of Humane Nature can behold without Droping a tear of pitty and Condolence, many of them have Houses and lands (such as they be) which are taken in the lists of Estates lately sent to Court which they cant possibly pay taxes for unless they sell them and in that case the most of them must be supported by the Town and the Towns being obliged to pay taxes for them Increases our burden —

¶ Furthermore We would Inform the Honourable Court that we have no Trade not haveing one Vessel in this Town for Carrying on the Foureign Trade or Coasting business, All the Navagation we are possest of is a few small Fishing boats, so that we are obliged to go out of Town to purchase every article of Foureign Consumption and a Considerable part of the Necessaries of life of this Countrys produce which Drains us of our money — We also Beg leave to say that for several years past we have paid so much more than our Just proportion of the Publick Tax that unless we have a proper Allowance for the same we shall soon be reduced to such an Impoveresh[d] Condition as not to be able to pay Taxes for the future which we apprehend will by no means be for the Good of the Common Wealth — ¶ When we look up to his Excellency and Honours in General Court Assembled as the Political parent of this Common-Wealth We Flatter ourselves they will not look upon it Impertinant or Persumeing in us; if we remind their Honours: that in the Course of the last Summer, this Eastern Shore has Been so Infested by the Enemy[s] armed Boats and other small Vessels from Penobscutt that many Coarsting Vessels and Fishermen have been taken from other Towns and also two Fishing Vessels from us, which obliged our Fishermen to keep in the Harbour a Considerable part of the best of the season for their business, which as it lessons our Little Incom it serves to render it less able to bair up under our Burden,— Within a few Days past These Insedeous wretches, cut two schooners out of the Harbour of Falmouth one Belonging to that Town, the other to marblehead, These Captures were made by the Famous or rather Infamous Cap[t] John Long who lately Broke Goal in Falmouth, and it is thought by the most Juditious and Deserving among us, that unless some Vigerous and Effectual Measures are taken by the Honourable Court to cover this Eastern Shore from the ravages of the

Enemy, that Next Summer the Eastern Inhabitants of this Common Wealth will not be able to Carry on the Coasting business Nor to Cetch fish for their own Familys Consumption, which will greatly effect the Tradeing Towns in the West — ¶ We your Memorialists relying on the Wisdom Justice and Compassion of the Honourable Court, Beg leave to lay this Memorial Before Your Excellency and Honours, Praying, that you would take it into your wise and Paternal Consideration and grant us such Redress as you in your Wisdom shall think fit as we your Memorialists in Duty Bound shall Ever Pray —

Nath[l] Staple
Stephen Randell
David Strout
} Selectmen of the town of Cape Elizabeth

A True List of the men Died mising and Absent Since the Commencement of the Present war Likewise those who has this mark × has left wives and Children in the town of Cape Elizabeth —

James Dyer Jun[r]
Jabez Dyer
Joseph Maxwell
Thos Maxwell
Nath[l] Staple Ju[n]
Rich[d] Jordan Jun[r]
Robert M[c]Creight
David Woodson
James Cobb
Jeremiah Jordan
Israel Jordan
Isaac Jordan
W[m] Jordan
Nath[l] Wheeler left one child
Joseph Wheeler
John Jordan Ju[n]
Tho[s] Jordan 3[d]
Alexander Pollock
Solomon Jackson
Sam[l] Robinson
Sam[l] Gammon
John Preston ×
John Gammon
Edward Avery ×
Wm. Fowler
Jonathan Webster
Nath[l] Sawyer
Tho[s] Webster
W[m] M[c]Callen
Tho[s] Nich[o] Chershind

Saml Jordan
Thos Jones
Joseph Cobb ×
Walter Simonton ×
Peter Dyer ×
Ebenezer Robinson ×
Robinson Prentice
Mathew [torn]
James Webber ×
John Strout
David Strout Jr.
Isaac Battle ×
Christopher Strout ×
William Sawyer
Thos York
Timothy Eldridg
Lemuel Sawyer
Benj^{a} Dyer ×
Joseph Stanford
Abraham Bryant Jr
Robert Herinton ×
Robert Jemison ×
Ebenezer Jordan
Robert Jordan ×
Edmund Jordan
Richd Langley ×
John Curate ×
Andrew Jordan
Joseph Hatch ×
Jon^{a} Sawyer
Wm Plummer
James Stanford
Josiah Stanford J^{r}
Barnabas Sawyer ×
Reuben Sawyer
Hezekiah Sawyer
Asa Sawyer
Josiah Skillings Son
Capt Loring Cushing
Jonathan Strout ×
Sam^{ll} Cash ×
James Dimble
Saml Dimble
Francis Cash
Stephen Cash
Robert Stanford J^{r} ×
Joseph Parker ×
Wm Thomas ×
John Bryant
Ebenezer Sawyer

Those be Absent for Several years and we know not where.—

Wm Stanford
James Horton
Jon^{a} Fairbanks ×
Ephraim Sawyer
James Allen
Judah Dyer ×
Wm Maxwell ×
George Smith ×

Ephraim Crocket ×
John McDaniel ×
Thos Jent

Jacob Webb
David Fairbanks } Absentees

David Strout
Stephen Randel
Nath[l] Staples } Selectmen of said [torn]

Cape Elizabeth Janu[a] 6 1781

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives February 17 1781

Whereas it appears to this Court that the Town of Cape Elizabeth in the County of Cumberland was Charged with one Hundred Polls More than their was in said Town at the time the last valuation was settled ¶ Therefore Resolved that eight shillings four Pence be abated from the Proportion sett on the Town of Cape Elizabeth to the Thousand Pound in the Last Valuation and that they be allowed out of the next State Tax sett on s[d] Town all such sum or Sums of Money that shall appear they have paid in Consequence of Said Hundred Polls.

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 17th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presid[t]

Approv'd John Hancock

Gen[l] Wadsworth to Gov. Hancock.

Sir

In mine of the twenty eighth of Nov[r] last, I acquainted your Excellency that the public Stores here particularly Bread, was nearly expended & that the Engagement of the Troops was almost up, with sundry other matters relative to this Dep[t] Since which I have rec'd neither Supplies nor Directions excepting that I had the honour of your Excel-

lency's of the 13th Ult respecting the Petition of Lucy Rittal (to which I immediately return'd an answer dated 23 Ult)

I have now to inform Your Excellency that, about the twentieth of last month, having no bread, & the Severity of the weather for the time preventing my Craft from getting the Beef Collecting in the remoter parts of the County; besides the Soldiers being almost unfit for any Duty for want of Cloths & their Term of Service expiring in about a fortnight, the whole of the Troops here, except a Subaltern & thirty Men, were discharg'd At the same time passed this Place on their way home, the Company that had serv'd at Machias the past season; so that now the whole Country on either Side Bagaduce from this Place to Machias, but for the Inhabitants, lays open to the Enemy; their Small Cruisers are very frequent on the Coast & there is scarce a Vessel left in the County of Lincoln.

There is four Small Cruisers from Bagaduce (the only Naval Force left, except a Letter of Mark Brig of 16 Guns) which are Steadily on this Shore & have of late cut out Several valuable Vessels from their Moorings.

The post at Falmouth will be destitute of Troops (ten or twelve half naked Matrosses excepted) by the twentieth Inst: & here I may not omit asking your Excellency's Pardon for my Misrepresentation of that Post in mine of the twenty eighth of Novr It having been thot proper to dismiss part of the Troops there with my knowledge. ¶ The Subaltern & thirty men retain'd here are divided between this Place & Cambden, for the Subsistence of which Bread is borrow'd from the Inhabitants in Expectation of having it replaced on the Arival of public Stores.

Inclosed is a Letter which I received from Colo Allan, I intreat your Excellency to consider whether the disagreeable representations from this Dept ought to be looked upon as

troublesome, or whether they are a necessary Information, describing a Disease that a remedy may be applied.

Is it not necessary that there should be some Troops on either Side of the Enemy to prevent their Depredations, & (what is of much the greatest Importance) to prop the Minds of the Inhabitants? Is it not necessary to have two or three Small Cruisers on this Shore to counteract those of the Enemy, to have the Small remainder of our Coasters & to prevent Mixt Trade?

And is it not necessary that a Small Number of Troops Should be station'd this winter at Falmouth to keep the Fortifications in readiness & the Stores Safe. Certainly thus much at least is necessary this winter & much more in the Spring unless the County of Lincoln is to be entirely relinquished in which Case the Inhabitants might make a petit guerre of their own.

The Bearer Waterman Thomas Esqr can give your Excellency Any needed Information respecting this Quarter, & Should any thing be undertaken, would be a very suitable person to collect supplies &c in this County.

I impatiently wait some return from your Excellency & in the meantime I have the honour to be with great respect

Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant

Peleg Wadsworth B G

Thomaston 10 Jany 1781

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr &c

In Senate Jany 29th

Read & sent down Jer: Powell Pres^{dt}

Order in re Committee of Valuation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives January 12: 1781

Ordered that Col Dawes Mr Jewett & Col^{o} Thacher be a Committee to consider of what number the Committee on the

Valuation shall consist & what number to the respective Counties

Jany 16: 1781 The Committee appointed to consider what number the Committee on the Valuation shall consist & what number from each County, take liberty to report — that the Committee consist of thirty One, in the following proportion vizt Suffolk 4 Essex 4 Middlesex 3 Hampshire 3 Plymouth 2 Barnstable 2 Bristol 2 Worcester 3 York 2 Cumberland 2 Lincoln 1 Berkshire 2 Dukes County & Nantuckett 1 Total 31

Jany 17 — 1781 — Ordered that the following Gentlemen be of the Committee for settling a general Valuation County of Suffolk — Thos Dawes Saml Barrett & Nathl Bayley Esq^{rs} and Mr Abner Ellis ¶ Essex Capt Holt, Capt Higginson Capt Adams & Mr Frazier Middlesex Major Hosmer Thos Brooks Esq & Capt Read ¶ Hampshire Col^{o} Goodman Mr Ely & Mr Smead ¶ Barnstable Mr Nye of Sandwich & Mr Paine ¶ Plymouth Hon James Warren Esqr & Capt Kingman ¶ Bristol Col^{o} Pope & Col^{o} Peck ¶ Worcester Capt Curtis Mr Ammidown & Capt Cowden York Nathl Wells Esq & Mr John Hill ¶ Cumberland Clement Jordan Esq & Mr Small ¶ Lincoln ¶ Wm. Lithgow Esq Berkshire Col^{o} John Ashley & James Harris Esqr Dukes County & Nantucket Stephen Hussey Esqr

January 18: 1781 The Hon. Saml Mather Esqr came down from the Honble Senate with the following Vote of Senate Viz^{t}

In Senate Jany 18: 1781 Ordered that Wm Sever Eleazer Brooks & Jon^{a} Greenleaf Esq^{rs} with such as the Honble House may join be a Committee to consider the most proper methods to be taken for settling the Valuation agreeable to the returns from the several Towns & Plantations in this Commonwealth —

Sent down for Concurrence —

Read & concurred & Co^{l} Dawes Mr Dix Mr Fessenden & Mr Tracy are joined

Jany 23: 1781 The Hon. Ephraim Starkweather Esqr came down from the Hon. Senate appointing James Barker Esq of the Committee to consider the most proper method to settle a Valuation &c, in the room of Eleazer Brooks Esq who is absent — sent down for Concurrence — Read & concurred & Mr Nash is appointed upon the above Committee in the room of Mr Dix who is absent.

Jany 24: 1781 The Hon: Mr Mather came down from the Hon. Senate with a Vote of Senate appointing Eleazer Brooks Esq. to consider the best method to settle a Valuation &c in the place of Wm Sever Esq excused — sent down for Concurrence — Read & concurred & Mr Ammidown & Capt Curtis are appointed in the room of Col. Dawes and Mr Tracy who are absent

Feby 1: 1781 The Hon. Saml Niles Esq. came down from the Hon Senate with the following vizt Ordered that Josiah Stone Eleazer Brooks John Bliss Ephraim Starkweather & Increase Sumner Esq. be a Committee on the part of the Senate, to confer with such Committee as the Honble House shall appoint upon the subject matter of a report of the Committee of both Houses Upon the most proper Method to settle a Valuation Sent down for Concurrence — Read & concurred & Genl Warren Mr Gerry Mr Ellis Mr Bacon & Mr Dunbar are joined.

Feby 2: Ordered that Mr Higginson be of the Committee to confer with a Committee of the Hon Senate upon the Matter of a Valuation in the room of Genl Warren who is absent

Feby 3: 1781 The Committee of Conference on the part of the House for settling the Valuation reported verbally that the valuation originate with the House and after it is accepted by the House be sent up to the Senate for Concurrence

or Amendment which was accepted as settled by Committee of Conference of both Houses and it was thereupon Ordered that the Committee appointed to settle a Valuation do sit immediately

Afternoon ¶ Hon. Mr Gorham came down from the Honble Senate to propose a Conference relative to the settling a Valuation ¶ Mr Bacon went up to the Hon. Senate to acquaint the Senate that the House agreed to the Proposal of the hon^ble^ Senate [and]

Feby 5: 1781 The Hon Mr Niles came down from the Honble Senate proposing to postpone the Conference relative to the Valuation tomorrow 3 OClock. ¶ Mr Barrett went up to the Hon. Senate to acquaint them the House do not agree to postpone the Conference but propose agreeable to assignment to have the Conference immediately & that the Usual Seats were assigned for the hon^ble^ Senate; The Hon Mr. Gorham came down from the hon^ble^ Senate to acquaint the House that by reason of the Severity of the Weather & their Numbers being few, they therefore again propose [or] OClock to morrow Afternoon ¶ Mr Kollock went up to the hon^ble^ Senate to acquaint them the House agreed to their last Proposal

Feby 6: 1781 The Hon. Mr Gorham came down from the hon^ble^ Senate to acquaint the House that the Senate was ready to proceed to the proposed Conference relative to the Valuation ¶ Mr Bacon went up to the Hon. Senate to acquaint the Senate the House were ready to proceed to the proposed Conference ¶ And after the Conference was ended it was ordered that the Vote of Saturday last accepting the Report of the Committee of Conference upon the Valuation be reconsidered and thereupon Ordered that the Committee appointed to settle a Valuation do sit immediately — ¶ Ordered that Mr Nash be of the Committee on the Valuation for the County of Berkshire in room of Col. Ashley who

is absent ¶ The Hon. Mr Phillips came down from the Hon Senate to desire that the House would serve the Senate with an attested Copy of their Proceedings relative to a Valuation ¶ Mr Henshaw went up to the Hon. Senate to acquaint the Senate the House have ordered their Clerk to make out an attested Copy of their Proceedings relative to a Valuation & when finished will be sent up to the honorable Senate

A Copy of Record Attest

And. Henshaw Clerk to the House

Resolve.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Jany 13th 1781

On the Petition of James Cargill praying for Liberty to be heard upon the floor of ye Honble House relative to the damage he has sustained in Consequence of the Sloop Nancy's being taken from him after she was Legally Condemned, in a Court of Admiralty as set forth in his Petition, ¶ Resolved that the Prayer of ye Petition be granted & that the said James Cargill have liberty to be heard upon the floor of ye House Relative to the Matter mentioned in his Petition, on Monday 15th Jan. at three oclock in ye afternoon — Read & accepted

Report on Furnishing Supplies By Town of Thomaston.

At a Meeting of the legal Voters of the Town of Thomaston on Monday the fifteenth Day of Jany A D 1781 at the Dwelling House of Mr Oliver Robins in said Town, agreeable to a Notification for that Purpose, In Obedience to a Resolve of the General Court for furnishing a Number of Cattle or Money sufficient to supply a quantity of Beef for the Support of the Army the present Year

Voted and Chose David Fales Esq; Moderator On a Motion made and seconded, voted that a Committee be chosen to prepare a Vote for this Town to pass upon the present Affair, Nathanael Fales, John Simonton, Elisha Snow, Committee The Committee Reported as followeth viz. "We beg leave to report, That we are not able at present to pay the Tax now laid upon us, and therefore we think proper to acquaint the Court of our Inability of paying; and also to choose a Committee for the same Purpose, Nath[l] Fales Chairman"

Which Report was accepted, and thereupon Voted that Mess[rs] Nathanael Fales, Isaac Washburn Daniel Morse Jeremiah Tolman, & Richard Kating, be the Committee. Then Voted that this Meeting be desolved.

David Fales Moderator.

A true Copy Attest David Fales Town Clerk

Petition Town of Fryeburgh.

Common Welth of Massachusetts To the Hon[l] the Senet and House of Representatives —

The Petition of Simon Frye in behalf and by the Direction of the Inhabitants of the Town of Fryeburgh humbly sheweth — that said Inhabitants were at great expence in looking out by different routs for a road to said Town and Clearing Fifty four Miles through an uninhabited Country in Order to move their families that the unseasonable Frosts have cut of their Crops for many years so that they were obliged to transport great part of their provisions from Boston — that they were at great expence on the Roads to Falmoth and Sauco which together with many other expences and Difficulties must have brok up the Settlement had it not been for the Vigorous Exertions of some of them and the assistance of their friends — by reason of s[d] Frosts and

Freshets which have frequently proved hurtful to our Grain we have scarsely ever been able to raise a sufficiency thereof for the Town notwithstanding they have been obliged to part with grain at some seasons; for salt and other Necessaries it always is wanted in the Town before the year comes about — that the Transportation from Falmouth which is the nearest market Town (by reason of the badness of the road and extraordinary blocking Snows was not less then five shilling p^{r} Hund^{d} w^{t} in lawful silver money before the present war — that said Town is under great disadvantages on acount of keeping sheep which is so Necessary for Clothing in these times for altho we have much exerted ourselves in that matter — we are disapointed and have suffered much Loss in them as well as in other young Cretures) by reason of the wild beasts of the wilderness — our Plantation being New and many of the Inhabitants very Indigent when they went theither: have not as yet by far the greatest part of them been able to procure themselves Houses comfortable to live in — that their unavoidable Expence as a Propriety & a Town are very great: these and many other difficulties incident to new Towns renders us incapable of paying so large a Tax as those Towns that lye better Situate and more improv'd said Town by order of the Honorable Court is Assess'd — May 15th 1780 in the sum of £8400.00 — In Octr 24 1780 in a sum of 8400 – 00 In a silver mony Tax of the Sum of 108 00 and Two Beef Taxes one of 3600 ^{wt} at 30/ p^{r} pound — 5400 00 another of 6915 ^{lb} wt, at 30/ pr pound — 10372 – 100 — Sum Total of said sums is £32680 10–0 = Including the Silver mony Tax in the Value of Silver — The Charges arising in the Town for hiring Soldiers the year past and other Necessary Charge is 12910 00 ¶ The above said Sums yet remain Due the Town have not been Able to Discharge any of them and think themselves entirely unable to pay the whole there of in there Circumstances —

¶ Notwithstanding our Indigent Circumstances we feel our selves as willing to exert our selves for the suport of Government and Carrying on the war as any people in the Commonwealth, (according to our ability — But we humbly Conceive we have more laid upon us then our due proportion with other Towns Compareing Abilities and Circumstances — wherefore humbly pray the Honorable Court to take our Case into their Consideration and make such abatements of said Taxes as they in their wisdom shall think just and Reasonable — and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Simon Frye

Boston January 18th 1781

Resolve in Favor Town of Fryeburgh.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives February 16 1781

On the petition of Simon Fry in the behalf of the Town of Fryburgh Setting forth that said Town hath been taxed a much larger Sum than their Equal Proportion by Reason of Sd Towns being Doomed near Double to what Sd Town ought to have Stood in the last Valuation. ¶ Therefore Resolved that the Treasuror of this Common Wealth be & he is hereby Directed to Stay his Executions from the Town of Fryburgh untill the further order of the General Court provided the sd Town of Fryeburgh Pays the one half of all the Taxes laid on sd Town Since The Last valuation was taken.

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 16th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Paul Revere.

To the Honble the Senate and House of Representatives of the Massachusetts State, in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Paul Revere who commanded a Corps of Artillery in the States service — Sheweth — That Your Petitioner while in said service had a complaint prefered against him to the Hon^{bl} Council by one Thomas Jeners Carnes, for misconduct on the Expedition to Penobscot; on which Complaint, Your Petitioner was Arrested by the Honble Council; two days after; the Arrest aforesaid was taken off and Your Petitioner Ordered to attend the examination of a Committee for investigating the Causes of the failure of that Expedition; that He as in duty bound attended said Committee; and, as your Petitioner understands, the report of said Committee, was never excepted by both Houses.

That in such a situation as must be deemed greivous to any Officer, Your Petitioner, petitioned the then Honble Council and House of Representatives six different times, between the 6th of Septem^{r} 1779, and the 8th of March 1780, for a Tryal by a Court Martial, but did not obtain one, till about a fortnight before the time expired for which said Corps was raised. When the Honble Council Ordered a Court Martial, and appointed Col^{o} Edward Procter President, which Court Martial was never summoned by the President, and of course never mett. The time expiring for which Your Petitioner was engaged; He has remained ever since suffering all the indignity which his Enemies, who He conceives have made it a personal affair, are pleased to impose on him.

Your Petitioner therefore most earnestly Prays this Honble Assembly, to take his case under consideration and Order either a Court Martial or a number of Officers, three, five, seven, or any number the Honble Court may see proper

Continentals or Militia properly qualified; who may enquire into his conduct on said expedition, and report, (all the evidence for and against Your petitioner is in writing sworn too before the above Committee, and now among the Honble Councils papers,) that the truth may appear and be published to the World. And Your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &^{c} Paul Revere

Boston Jany 22 1781

Petition of Philip Maret.

To the Hon^{bl} Senate & House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of the Massachusetts

The Petition of Philip Marett Capt in Col^{o} Thos Crafts' late State Regiment of Artillery

Humbly Sheweth that your petitioner was in the Said Regiment from its first forming till sometime in Jany 1779, when he was Regularly Discharged by the Honble Council to Serve his Country in another Department most the officers in Said Regiment has Received there Depreciation, some of them who have Recived it left the Service before your Petitioner.— Your Petitioner was in that unfortunate Expedition to Penobscut: a Lieu^{t} on bourd the Ship Sky Rockett where he lost his Cloaths & Beding for which of his Services he has Recived nothing.— Your Petitioner begs your Honor's to Grant him his Depreciation & in Duty bound shall ever Pray &c Th: Marett

Boston Jany 22^{d} 1781

Boston Feby 24th 1781

These Certify all whom it may concern, that Capt Phillip Merett was regularly discharged by Order of the Honble Council from the Mass^{ts} Regiment of Artillery, while under my Command Thos Crafts

Resolve in Favor of James Cargill Esq.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives January 22d 1781

On the Petition of James Cargill Esq. ¶ Resolved that there be paid out of the Treasury of this State to the said James Cargill the Sum of five A hundred and forty two Pounds nine Shillings in the Bills of Credit of the New Emission in full for Losses and Damages he hath sustained, on account of the Sloop Nancy, captured by him the said Cargill in the year 1775.

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Jany 23d 1781 —

Read & Concurred wth an Amendment at **A** viz, at **A** dele the word five and Insert four —

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives Jany 23: 1781

Read & Concurred

Approv'd John Hancock

Wt drawn 25th inst.

Caleb Davis Speaker

John Springer to General Court.

Sir Immeadst of a see of troble I think on a former Acquantance with your honor I Cannot forbear tacking the freedom to acquant your honor Somewhat of our Deplorable Sittwashon we hear att frenchmans Bay have been afruntear Ever sence the Enemy took stashon att Bageduse for all the inhabbatnts Betweaen we and them did fall in withe the Enemy and took the oath of fydelity to their king and we have kept our Lines ever sence with out the assistance of any one tell this fall we wase oblged to Call on our Neabours

Eastward of us and obtaind Eighteen of Col° Allens atteachment all mechias to our assistance and Seance theay Left us our Neabours on Mount Deasert Island have the more parts of them Been up to the Enemey and taken the oath of fydelity allso — Soo that all this Deay we are all most Surrounded on Every Quarter by the Enemy and their Subjeacts — which Renders our Case more Diffucult and Discurgeing then Before — soo that our fears are not bearly from whate we have Expearanced this fall but what the Approching Spring and Sommer may Bring Abought — But Still we flatter ourselves that sence our Constitushon has taken place and soo worthy a man att the head of our Commonwealth that their will be something Done for Bageduse —

Dear Sir Ant it ameasing to think on? that About three hundred Brittish trops and about fifty Refugees cast[e] upon Bageduse neack in A littel fort with about Eight Carrege Guns Should keep all this Steat in an uproer taking and Distroying all our Navegashon and fishery, ameasing in Dead — I Could wish I had an hundred thousand pounds and the athority would give me Liberty to Lay it out in the Reduckshon of Bageduse I now of now way I Could Lay it out with soo much plesure ass I Could in that weay if I ware sure it never would be Replast to me Again — in Dead Sir I think if their wase proper measurs pursued It would be an easey preay with a Good man, att helme Except the Great God Should frown on us ass it seam[d] he Did att our Defeat — But I have faith to think that he is yeat on our side and will finily vouchsafe our cause if we put our trust in him who Is the God of armeys —

Sir we now present a potishon for some assistance provided their Should be No Expedishon formed Against Bagaduse this Spring and hope it will be taken under your honors wise Considrashon in General Assembly for should there be nothing Done for us tiss Emposable for us to keep our Lines

ass Bageduse is within: 30: miles of us and mecchias 70 from us Soo that we can Geat noo assistance from that before theay might Distroy our whole Settlment and if we Should Give Back hear their Is no prospict of another Stand being made teel theay come to Machias — Sir is it posable for [line missing]
Body Can be Allways Deaf to our Most Sencear Repreesenttashons thoughtless of our approching Danger and Leave us a pray to the Cowardly Discretion of our Emplagable Enemyes and Loose soo vealewable apart of this State Ass will onavidably fall in to their hands unless a Speedy Mathord be taken for its Safty — Sir It is the oppinion of thinking men amongst us if we had a hund[d] and fifty or two hundred men and the inhabbatants put in pay with a small matter of artilary we Could hold the Ground with Safty and troops Stashoned hear wood be a tarrow to Evil Doars who are amounghts us their prelights and Shimeis and such for we are not with out such men amounghts us theay Rise Daly to our Great Surprise Sir we allmost Dispair for fear we are for saken and Given up for we have not Received soo much ass any advise from our Leaders this twelve months we think att Least we Should have that soo we may the Beter know how to Govern our Sleves I preesume to Assart that their is a number of well Grounded princable amoungst us In faver of our Common Cause who hold themselves in Readiness to Jopperd their Lives in Defence of it if your honors in your wisdom shall See meet to poynt out some proper meathord to prosead in — Between Bagaduce and west passemequody their is between :60: and :70: Saw Mills which would in the Season of their Gooing Cut two hundred Thousand of Lumber Every twenty four howers that have been Silenced Ever Sence the Enemy took poshon of Bagaduse is not this a Great Danger to the publick welbe besides indivaduals that owns them ameasing what Shall I Say more

in my Zeal I Could wright a wole voullom — But not nowing whether it will avvile any more than throoing Stones against the wind I Conclude with subscribing my selfe a well wisher to the Comon Cause of the Younited States of Amarikey and with Respeact your Sencear frind and humble Servant —

John Springer

frenchmans Bay the 24' of Jenveary 1781

In Senate March 10th, 1781

Read and Referred to the Governer & Council to take such order thereon as they shall think proper

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives March 10t 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Spkr

Memorial of Inhabitants of Frenchman's Bay.

To the Honourable the Senate & House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts.

The Humble Address of the Distress'd Inhabitants of a place commonly known by the name of Number Two, within Frenchman's Bay, in the County of Lincoln. — Begs leave to Represent to your Honours, That ever since the Commencmt of the present unhappy War, We have Laboured through the Greatest Difficulties, which we have Cheerfully bore, & Defended our Privilidges & our Country's Cause, against our unnatural Enemies untill the present Day. When the Brittons took Possession at Bagueduce the other Towns West of us, fell into their unjust Measures, & took the Oath of Fidelity to the Crown of England, we made a Stand & absolutely Refused to give up, untill by force of Arms; after the unhappy Defeat at Bagueduce we Return'd home & Re-

sumed the same Principle altho all west of us took a Second Oath to them, & we still stand out, altho' their Threats & Invasions are many; this Fall a Number of Refugees sallied out on us, took a number of Cattle & some Prisoners, but by the Dexterity of our Militia the Cattle & Prisoners were soon Released, & the Ring Leader of the Refugees made prison^r But finding it was their Absolute Determination to Destroy this place totally & we the Frontier, were und^r the Disagreeable Necessity to call in to our Assistance some of the Millitia from the Towns east of us, & Col^o Allan sent us a Lieut. with Eighteen State Soldiers all which we were Obliged to Support with provisions by Killing our Cattle & Grinding up our Grain we had Raised for the Winter, which put us in great Distress at present, & some men in particular.

We find now that it is their Determination to Subdue us at all Events, which if they do it is unlikely there will be any other Stand untill at Machias; which cannot Stand long if all is Subdued to there, our Distance is Twenty five miles to Bagueduce and Seventy to Machias, our Millitia are so Pleagued out, & Provision so Scarce that unless Speedily Helped, we fear we shall soon fall into their hands, and if we do, we must Expect no Mercy, as we have Stood out so long, & they so Exasperated against us,—and in particuler the Murdersome Refugees whose threats Breaths out nothing but Effusion of Blood and Destruction against us,—and if this place is Subdued it will be an Inlet to the Enemy for a Large Lumber Trade as well as Large Stocks of Cattle und^r their Command, Likewise the unavoidable Distress of so many True Subjects to the States.

They have Plunder'd us of all our Navigation even to our Fishermen, Stop't all our Trade, & under those Circumstances we have as yet stood out, and Still are Determin'd to, untill made Prisoners of War, with our Familys and Interest,

Therefore we humbly pray your Honours to take our Distress'd Situation into your Wise Consideration, and Grant us such Assistance as in your Wisdom you may think most Expedient for us and best for the Common cause of the States.

And if there can be Nothing done for our Protection we beg leave humbly, your Honours may Grant us a Flag, for such as will incline to Move off & Save themselves from Ruin.

Moses Butler
Thomas Moon } Committee
William Ingolls

N° 2 Within Frenchmans Bay jany 26, 1781
Mr Stephen Hardison the Bearer

Report of Resolutions in re Dr. Joseph Gardner.

In Senate Jany 1781

The Committee of both Houses appointed to consider the Representation of Doctor Joseph Gardner take Leave to Report the following Resolves which are submitted

The Committee of both Houses upon the Representation of Doctor Joseph Gardner

Resolved, that Andrew Wisacre and Philip Audibert wounded at Penobscott, out patient of the State Hospital, are no longer under the directions of Dr Gardner, and he is not permitted to allow them Rations: ¶ Resolved, that the Sick Seamen who were Strangers, returned in the Ship Protector from her last Cruize, and could not be taken in to the State Hospital & had their necessary's from said Hospital during their sickness, have the Doctors Bill paid by the State, and nothing further. ¶ Resolved that the sick negroes who were Servants on board said Ship & died, have the Doctors Bill paid by the State & nothing further —

Resolved, that no funeral Charges be paid by the State for any Seamen belonging to the ship Protector, The wages of such Seamen as died after the Cruise was up being sufficient for said purpose & the Necessarys from said Hospital and Doctors Bill is paid by the State. ¶ Resolved, That some Provision be made for a State Hospital other than that on Rainsford Island in the Harbour of Boston.

Sam[l] Mather p[r] Order

In Senate Jan[y] 26th 1781

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi[dt]

In the House of Representatives Jan[y] 31: 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

J. Allan to President Powell.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Indian Eastern Department — Machias January 26th 1781

Sirs, I had the Honor of writing your Excellency the 2[d] Novmb[r] by Capt[n] Preble since which no sutable oppertunity has happened that I could give any Information of Matters on this Department. ¶ Agreable to what I then Acquainted your Excellency Respecting the Meeting of the Indians The 14th of Novemb[r] Six Canoes Arived from S[t] Johns with Those I sent Express and Several others from the Neighbouring Lakes, being anxious about seeing a Priest, did not want my going to Passamaquody — we Immediately met in Conference but the Indians so Elated with the sight of a Priest & other Agreeable Inteligence Mix'd with Intoxication Little coud be done at that Time — Agreed to Meet

Them at Passamaquody to fix upon a place for an Incampment so to have a General Meeting at Christmas — ¶ The 24th November Went to Passamaquody in Company with the Priest — After seeing them all — Incampt and a Small House Built for the Business of the Winter I returnd to Machias the 9th of December during my Absense much Difficulty Arose respecting Provisions Amoung the Militia, was Oblidged to discharge Capn Andrews Company the 13th ¶ On the 20th December Returnd to Passamaquody where I found deputys from St Johns & Messages from those belonging on the Confines of Canady & other Villages, the severity of the season and the necessity of Keeping at Home to procure provisions prevented Many from Coming — but Received Great Tokens of Friendship, Seal & Attachment towards the States, with full Authority to hold a General Conference. The 3rd of January we mett on business, I Acquainted them of the General State of Matters, the Conection with the French & other Nations Explaned to them the Message sent by the General Court & French Consul, Repremanded for their Conection with the English at Fort How — And Acquainted them what I had proposed to Government respecting future Conduct — To, wit That they Keep Upon their Hunting Grounds which was within the States — that they follow their Hunt — a Truck House to be Established for Trade upon An Equitable Footing, A Store House to pay them when Imployd — Also necessary presents for such who Merits and for the poor and Indigent — to have some permainent Method to prevent the Impositions of Petty Traders on condition of a Firm Attachment to the States to be ready at all Times when call'd upon Either Offencive or Defencive — ¶ This plan was what I have before Communicated, & what I further found by private Conversation Amoung them woud Take the Greatest Effect to wean them from the Empresions made by the Britons — Whoes Con-

duct this fall Amoung the Indians has sett their minds wavering, Those on St Johns have received Cloathing for their Whole Famelys, Arm & Amunition, On Condition they wou'd Hunt on the River, Trade at Fort How & not To have Any Conection with the States — Their Going to St Johns Last Summer, tho they say it was for to see a Priest, it was as Much to Gete supplys, which they were in Great want of in that Time, had There Been a Small Assortment for Trade or Otherways There it woud have prevented all this — ¶ The Indians in Answer to my Speech made a Declaration which in Genl was that their Zeal affection & attachment was towards the United States and were ready at all Times to Attend their Call & Continue in Any Place They should Desire if Properly supported, that the whole of Them on St Johns & Elsewhere woud remove as early as the season woud admit — But Necessity Compelled to Go to St Johns being in the Greatest want for Necessarys — They, (and perticularly at the present Conference) Express the Greatest Affection for the French, the Connection with whome, much cements their union with us — The Priest which came from the French Fleete, Appears the Most Calculated for the Indians then Any I ever saw — either from the French or Britains, the Steps he has taken, the Conduct he pursues — gives the Indians the Greatest Satisfaction And which (if he is permitted to Tarrys) will be of the Greatest Utility & Benefit in Securing the Interest of the Indians — And I am now well Convinced if sutable Supplys are Laid in for the Indians to prevent their Going to the Britons for Necessarys, the whole of them as far as Canada, will Immediately Joyn for any sort of Bussiness the States may require & in a short Time win the Adjacent Mickmaks if not the whole for the Same Purpose — After settling all matters I returned the 6th January Leaving the Priest & Lieut Delesdernier — the former being aged & so Infirm coud not Stand the Cold in an

Open Boat — I Expected to have mett the Schooner Nesquowoit with Supplys perticularly some provisions for the Indians, Intending to Return Immediately to Passamaquody in the Schooner — finding her not there, sent Express to Pacify the Indians — The 25th the Priest & Mr Delesdernier returnd to Machias, Brot Inteligence that the Indians were Greatly Incensed at me in not procuring some provisions for them & Coming with the Schooner — I Immediately sent off some Ammunition and Apply'd to some Inhabitants at Passamaquody to furnish some provisions a Considerable I have already procured for which I stand Indepted on my Personal Credit ¶ The 13th the Neshquowoit Arrived, my Trouble & Anxiety your Excelency will please permit me to Mention, on the Return of the Schooner in Not having some Provisions for the Indians which I had promised them Agreeable to the Message from the Honbl Court, & what Indeed I coud not have otherways done to bring them together for the business of the Conference, & to Keep a Number Adjacent to these Settlements to deter the Designs of the Enemy, as other Troops coud Not be Raised,—A number of these Famelys Left St Johns After their Winter Supplys were Laid in — and Several have kept Continualy in the District Intirely Devoted to the Service & who have done no Other Business for their Livelyhood But Attended their duty as Soldiers when called upon Several of them Merrits as much as any Imployd in the Service According to their Stations — ¶ By the Resolves of the General Court I perceive nothing is done for the Indian Department Except Authorizing Your Excellency to Grant an Exclusive Right to some Person for the Indian Trade, I did not Take the Liberty to Recommend their plan as absolutely settled with the several Tribes, Nor Expected if agreed upon it coud Take place before the Insueing season, In the Interim I fully Relyed & Expected that the Indians woud be supply'd with some Provisions for

Immediate Subsistance and Untill the Time they Entered Upon Other Bussiness to Enable them to procure something themselves — this Discouragement will Create Great Difficultys, Occation Uneasiness & discontent which even 150 Bushils Corn might have prevented — ¶ The Plan I had the Honor to Transmit Your Excellency in my former Letter. In Conducting the Indian Affairs, I still presume is the most Elligible only with any Alteration which may appeare in this, that it will be Highly Requisite to fix Upon Passamaquody for the Principle place for General Randevous And whatever may be done to be as Expeditiously as posible — and Must further — Implore in my own Private behalf as Official, to Fulfill my Promise with Them, that some Supplys of Cloathing may Come down to pay such as have been Imploy'd if Nothing for the others, as Also provision for the whole as of the Utmost Consiquence in preserving their Interests. Permit me further to Inform Your Excellency, as a Matter that Needs No doubt that the Manner in which Things are Conducted with the Indians this Season, and What they perceive in the Attention paid by the States for their Benifit & Comfort will Govern them & Settle their Union in future — The Great Encouragement Given by the Britons They View Themselves More Independent than ever — ¶ When I was with Them and further Acquainted by the Priest Their Minds are much Lifted up by having a Reverand Father And the Expectation of Supplys — Taulk Continualy and publickly as well as privately of War. Relying they will be Imployd somewhere, the report has Gone Abroad every where Amoung the Tribes — Consiquently if they see Nothing to Support Them nor no Encouragement for their doing Any thing, their Spirits will fall as much down as they are now Lifted which in General is the Nature of Indians — ¶ As soon as my Present Dispatches are forwarded Shall sett of for Passamaquody where I intend to

Continue Amoung the Indians till the Return of the Schooner — ¶ The State Transmited to your Excellency respecting the Situation of the Country I must further Acquaint You, is growing more Alarming every day, The Tolerations & Licences Granted to several persons Opens a dore for An Open Communication to & from Nova Scotia.— The British Posts Eastward of this gives themselves no Trouble to Molest or Hinder, Consiquently its evident how much such persons are Esteemed by the Enemy — by pursuing some Measures as Agreeable to them, Persons Goes to the westward Claiming the Rights of Law, It is clear and evident the same are Permitted to stand in the British Courts of Judicature & recouver what has been Captured — and Letters in an Open Manner Conveyd to & from Halifax & Majourbagaduce — Persons have been Apprehended here, whom I have Brot to Examination during which Time, being on their Parole have Absconded. The Indigent State of the department and the Multiplicity of Bussiness makes it Impractable to pursue such — ¶ The Inhabitants of Mount Desert Hitherto the most Zealious to Oppose the Enemy by the Conduct of Many About them, discouraged & by the small threats given by the Enemy has in a manner Revolted & all but about 8 or 10 have been to Majourbagaduce & have taken the Oath of Allegence ¶ The People of Frenchmans bay still stand Out & seem Ditermind, they are very solicitous to be assisted & has wrote me there upon, Hitherto I have done all in my power to help them but at present Cannot I must in their Behalf Solicite Your Excellencys Attention, who as Good Subjects of the Country are deserving of it — ¶ By the Submission of Mount Desert, this Department is Brot into a small Compass only Frenchmans Bay, Goulds-borough, Narraguagus, Pleasant River & Mechias that there Can be Any Dependence Upon, The former in a Manner surrounded with Torys under every Disadvantage By Sea &

Land — ¶ In Regard to the Military State of Matters here, I am sorry to Acquaint Your Excellency that it is Impractable to Raise Men as Ordered by the Resolve of the Gene[l] Court the 28th Novemb[r] every One being Inclined to pursue his Own Occupation, the small Encouragement given, the Backwardness on my part in Make'g payment & fullfilling promises I have made, with the Account of the Low State of the Treasury which many make a bussiness of Probagating with Agravated Circumstances that it is in a Manner Viewed as An Insult to propose Such a thing in the Country — Under these Circumstances I have been Oblidged to have Recourse to Varrious Measures to Keep the Post secure during my Absence Amoung the Indians, Apply'd to the Committee for Advice, by their Recommendation Requested of the Commanding Officer of Militia to Garrison the Fort, Being Affraid of pursueing any Method that had a Tendency to Infringe on the Libertys of the Militia in their Civil Capacitys, I agreed to have it done Under the directions of their Own Officers & in such a Manner as they thot Best which is the Only way I can pursue at present, to follow any other thats diffirent from the disposition or Inclinations of the people woud Occation Broils which in the present Circumstances of the Country might be of Fatal Consiquences ¶ Your Excellency will please Excuse the Prolixity of my Letter being Anxious to Communicate every matter which Accrues in the department Any Incorrectness or Litegeousness pleas Attribute to the Multiplicity of Bussiness and anxiety About the Setuation of Affairs in the Department — ¶ I would now beg of Your Excellency that if thought Expedient to Continue me in the Command that some permanent Measure may be Taken to Carry on the Business, that I may be Able to fullfill the Intentions of Government and to Discharge that Duty of Honor as a Servant of the States — ¶ Shoud Any Matter Appears not satisfactory in my Con-

duct to your Excellency & the Honor^{ble} Court, I woud pray the Indulgence to be permited to Go Westward to Give Any satisfaction Required and would Chuse for the futture if Continu'd to settle every Matter personally the Supplys not Coming Induses me to Suppose the Government is not Satisfy'd with my Proceedings in Consiquence I have Orderd Mr Avery to Return with all Expedition in Order to settle such Public Matters as Remains Unsettled and if agreeable to Your Excellency will proceed for Boston if thought Necessary on the Return of the Vessell — Jany 31st ¶ The Vessell being detaind and my Letter not Closed I have further to Inform Your Excellency that Last Evening an Express Arrived from the Committee of Frenchmans Bay, That Several Persons Adjacent were Useing their Endeavours to win the Inhabitants to the Britons that some of That District had Been at Bagaduce, Disposed of a Large Quantity of Lumber — He Returned Openly Defying every Authority — That the said Lumber is now at the Risque of the Britons who were Expected soon — That such Discouragement Appeared that they were Fearefull if Something was not Done Immediately, the Inhabitants Some thro fear & some from Necessity must submit — I intend to proceed that way myself Immediately on the Departure of the Vessell — ¶ Have Also Received Certain Inteligence that three small Privateers were Fitting Out Privately at Annapolis to Cruise of this Harbour the Biggening of April

I have the Honor to Be with all posible Respect Your Excellency Most obedient hum^{le} Servant

J Allan

In Senate February 14th 1781

Read & Sent down with the memorial accompanying the same

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Feby 15: 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Capt Patch Major Page & Mr Fry of Fryburgh with such as the Hon. Senate shall appoint be a Committee to take into Consideration this Letter & the Memorial accompanying the same & to report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 16th 1781

Read & Concurred & John Pitts & Stephen Choate Esq^{rs} are joined

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Petition of Inhabitants of Winslow.

To His Excellency John Hancock Esqr Captain General and Governour in chief, in and over the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts Bay in New England &^{c} &^{c}

To The Honourable the Senate of Said Commonwealth and the Honourable the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

The Petition of us the Subscribers, a Committee Chosen by the Inhabitants of Winslow, at a Legal Town Meeting held the 16th Instant, in Order to Represent to Government the presant State & condition of said Town of Winslow Humbly Sheweth That sometime last fall a Number of Indians, to the amount of Twenty families consisting of Ninety Nine, men women and Children — came and Settled, near Fort Hallifax, and have built what they call a village for themselves, They brought no necessaries of life for their support with them, nor anything to purchase it, when they first came the skins and furrs they had, they exchanged for rum in a short space, They said they had sent some of their men to

Boston in Order to get Stores for them and that they had had assurances of being found in what they wanted This quieted the Inhabitants by which means the Indians was not obstructed in either settling or residing in said town, and the Inhabitants was kind to them, in giving them provisions, beyond what reasonably could be expected from such a new settlement as we are, But upon return of their men, and particuliarly Co[l] Brewer, they, as well as the Inhabitants found they were to have no Stores from Boston this winter, which threw the Inhabitants into a Delemma, Thinking they were now necessiated to support the lives of these people, as the winter was then fully set in. The Inhabitants applyed to the Select men for redress of Grievances, who upon Strict enquiry found that one forth part of the Inhabitants of the Town, had not provisions to bring them to the first day of March, the Consequence then was that the burden must fall on the other three quarters, but upon further enquiry, the half of the three quarters foresaid could only support their own families till the first of May. The case being thus circumstanced, and no Mercat. to Supply either them or the Inhabitants Occationed the Town meeting aforesaid. This winter is unfavourable for hunting by reason there is no Crust on the Snow, besides the Indians are fifty miles from their hunting ground, and cannot get provisions to carry them there, They got an order from General Wadsworth on the agent, who receives beef, for 1000 w[t] The town of Winslow immediately advanced the 1000 w[t] of beef to them, which will last them but a short time. There is a misunderstanding among the Indians, They are possessed with an opinion that cannot easily be removed, That the State, and even individuals are under an obligation to Support them in all their Extravagancies, which makes them Extravagant in their demands, to that degree that they often want the Inhabitants to kill their cows and Sheep for them

without makeing any provision for the payment thereof, with threatnings and even violence offered They have a great number of dogs that are voraceous and wild, they seize on all tame animals without provocation, and follows them till they kill them, This had like to breed much trouble last fall, the dogs killed many sheep and several young cattle, when the Inhabitants told the Indians they would kill their dogs if they did not take care of them their answer was, if any one would kill their dogs they would kill a Cow for every dog, now the Spring of the year is advancing when the cattle will go out to the woods after food, if the Indians dogs kill them, the owners will kill the dogs, which if the Indians resent the Consequence must be bad, and instead of preserving peace with the Indians, there will be an unavoidable war, we doubt not that the Government ment well in placeing a truck house for the Indians at fort Hallifax, But as the most of bad examples take their rise from good Designs, this is likely to be the case here if not timeously prevented, your petitioners in behalf of the Town of Winslow — humbly pray that your Excell[s] and Honours will consider our distressing Circumstances, and Discontinue the Truck at Fort Hallifax and move it if your wisdom think fit, some miles above the Inhabitants, either on Sibeslucook or kennebeck rivers by this means, the Indians will not often Incorporate with the Inhabitants, and when they get Drunk their quarrells will be among themselves, besides they will be near their hunting ground, and Consequently more industerous than they appear to be at present, for they now take advantage of our other Difficulties and value their friendship much, which they are set upon to sell as dear as they can, The Town of Winslow have always strictly adhered to the orders of the General Court, since the commencement of the presant war, both with respect to raising their quota of men for the Continental army, the years past, and others, on Special Occations, and

are still willing to Comply to the outmost of our powers, At presant there is four men required of this Town for the Continental army for three years or during the war, we have made Tryal to Inlist them, but cannot accomplish it, Your petitioners pray your Exellency and honours will consider this town as being a frontear to the Enemy at Penobscut and liable to alarms from thence which we have often experienced, besides the Indians are an unsteady people and there is more in number of them fighting men than Inhabitants and on these considerations acquit us from raising these four men required, at least that we may not be ammercated for neglect, and a reasonable time allowed us,— There is another requisition on this Town for 2420 ^{wt} of beef, we have advanced 1000 ^{wt} of it for the Indians as before set forth, the remaining 1420 ^{wt} the several Inhabitants of this town have given to the Indians in provisions of some kind or other, Therefore we hope this town will be Considered as having Satisfied for their Quota of beef required, and that we may be properly Discharged from any further payment of said beef and your petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever Pray

Ezekiel Pattee John McKechnie

Winslow Jan^{ry} 27th 1781

Petition of John Cushing.

To the Honourable the Senate the Honourable the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The petition of John Cushing in behalf of himself and John Wormsley, humbly sheweth, that your petitioner and the said Wormsley, have fitted for sea, two large Letter of marque ships, one called the Polly John Burk, master, the other the Black Queen Samuel Dunn, master, pierced for Eighteen guns and will mount Twelve Iron six pounders each, which ships they propose to load for the West Indies

at Casco Bay, and intend they shall sail in Company with another ship of the same force that is loading at Portsmouth; and they wish to take on board said ships a few large masts, which (tho' an Act of this Commonwealth restraining the Exportation) they conceive may be of public utility at this time as the three ships make up such a force as renders it highly probable of their going in safety, and if they arrive safe must greatly serve our Allies the French (at whose request the restraining Act was principally made) as well as many American Vessels, who have suffered so amazingly in the late hurrycane in the West Indies, and to facilitate the loading said ships your petitioner wou'd be glad to purchase of the State a few of the large Spars, they have laying at Casco Bay under the care of the Honor^ble^ Board of War, and to discount the same with said Board for a Debt due from them to your petitioner.

Therefore your Petitioner humbly prays that your Honours would take the matter under your serious consideration, and as others have lately been allow'd to carry large Spars, have no doubt but we shall have the same Indulgence; and that you will be pleased to give your Permit for loading the said ships, and that if the Spars before mentioned are not wanted for the use of Government, that you will be pleased to give your Directions to the Honourable Board to dispose of them, and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Jn° Cushing.

Boston January 27th 1781.

Resolve in re Beef For Army.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Jany 29th 1781

Whereas it has been represented to this Court that there is a quantity of Beef Collected and Salted in the Counties of

Cumberland & Lincoln upon the first requisition — ¶ That Beef will be wanted for the Troops in that Quarter therefore ¶ Resolved that the whole Quantity of Beef which has been raised upon the first requisition, and that has or may be raised on the second requisition in the Counties of Cumberland and Lincoln be retained in s^{d} Counties untill the further orders of the Genl Court, and that Eben^{r} Pribble be & hereby is appointed Commissioner for the County of Cumberland and Dummer Sewell Esqr for the County of Lincoln to collect said Beef into proper Stores and take special care that the same be well secured & preserved, and to give duplicate Receipts to the Agents from whome they may receive said Beef one of which Receipts s^{d} Agents are directed to lodge in the Secretaries office ¶ and it is further Resolved that the Agents for said Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln be & hereby are directed forthwith to pay the Monies they have or may receive upon the first and second requisition in lieu of Beef into the hands of the Superintendant of this Commonwealth taking duplicate Receipts for the same one of which to be lodged in the secretaries office.— ¶ And whereas it appears that several Towns &c have Collected their money in lieu of Beef upon the first requisition but have not had opportunity to pay the same to the Committee or Agents — Resolved that the Committee and their Agents shall receive money in lieu of Beef of the said Deficient Towns & Plantations untill the Twentieth day of February next at the rate of Three Pounds seven shillings & six pence of the new Emission & Hundred weight ¶ and whereas there is a deficiency of Returns from Several of the Towns &c of the Beef & money they have supplied upon s^{d} first requisition said Towns & plantations are hereby notified forthwith to make returns into the secretaries office of such Certificates as they have received or may receive from the Committee or Agents — as they would avoid the penalty provided in the Resolve

of the 25th of September last. The Superintending Committee are also directed forthwith to lodge in the Secretaries office a List of the supplies each Town & Plantation has made either in Beef or Money ¶ and the Secretary is hereby Directed to publish in the several Newspapers such part of these Resolves as Make provishon for Lengthing out the time for Receiving Money in Lieu of Beef & also Calling for the Returns from the several Towns & Emmeadietly [A] Send forward to [B] Mr Ebenr Pribble & Dummer Sewell Esqr [C] their appointment

In Senate Jany 29th 1781

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

Read & Concurred with the amendments at A to B & C — viz at A dele from A to B: send forward to & insert to notify at C insert of

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Preside

In the House of Representatives Jany 29: 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Benjamin West.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts To the Honorable Senate and honorable House of Representatives in General Court Assembled Jany 1781

The Petition of Benjamin West of Roxbury in the County of Suffolk Labourer, humbly Shews that in the year 1775 he entered into the Service of his Country and continued therein untill he was taken prisoner at the Siege of Quebec where he

Suffered a Rigorous imprisonment for the space of Nine Months, in addition to which he had the misfortune to be robbed of all his Cloaths, consisting of a Great Coat, Blanket, Beaver Hat, Jacket & Breeches, Shoes & Stockings, besides a firelock & accoutrements all of which were his own property — that after having served in the Army several times, he was taken by force and carried to Penobscot and there served faithfully untill the Return of the Troops from that unhappy Expedition, in which Service he was also so unfortunate as to lose a Great Coat, Jacket, Breeches, two Shirts, trousers & overhawls, by which losses and Sickness your Petitioner is greatly reduced, & almost in a suffering Condition, nor has he received for his Services at Penobscott any Wages or allowance whatsoever — The Circumstances and Sufferings of your Petitioner, being thus Singular & distressing he doubts not your honors disposition to relieve and to do justice to one who has not been backward to step forth in defence of the Cause of Liberty in every time of danger — the above facts your Pet^r will make appear whenever your honors will grant him that liberty — He therefore prays the Honorable Court to make him such Allowance & Compensation for his Services and great losses, as your Honors in your great Wisdom & humanity shall think reasonable — ¶ And as in duty Bound will ever pray

Benjamin West

Boston Feby 6, 1781

This may Certify that Benj. West was prest on board the Warren Friggate at the time she went to Penobscot —

S Cooper, Purser of s^d Ship

Boston February 1781

An accompt of the loses I sustained in the Service according to the best of my Judgment. As hard money goes now one Dollor 0 : 6-0

my great Cote or Surtout	Six Dolors	1	4	0
Blanket	2 Dols		9	0
Beaver hat	8 Dolors	1	4	0
Jacket Breaches	7 Dolors	1	4	0
Shoes & stockings	2 Dolors	0	9	0
Firelock & accoutrements	12 Dolors	3	0	0

Lowance of provisions When I was Starving in the Woods 20 dols.

The loss I sustane by going to penobscot

a french great Cote	Seven dolars	1	4	0
Jacket and Breeches	3 d——	0	13	4
Two Shirts	3 Dolors	0	18	0
Trowsers & ovehals	3 Dolors	0	15	0
	53 Dolors	11	0	4

Wages due to me for going to penobscot What my superiors think just I am Content to receive So I Remane my Countrys friend

Benjamin West

the expences of my Witness that Sworn for me and several days I have spent hard Dolors myself

Suffolk Ss. Feby 16th 1781.

Then the above named Benjamin West personally appeared before me and made Oath that he lost the several Articles above mentioned

Before Richard Cranch Jus: Pacis

Boston February 7 1781

I James Welch of Boston being of Lawful Age do Testify and Declare that in the Latter Part of the Summer in ye year 1775 I the s^{d} Welch was with Benjamin West of Roxbury Inlist under Capt Thair who went under Col^{o} Arnold to Quebec and there in the storming of Quebeck the s^{d} West was Taken prisoner and Detained their and that the s^{d} West

Lost all his Cloaths Except what he had on his Back and further the Deponent Saith not

James + Welch

Suffolk Feby 7th 1781

Then James Welch appear'd & after being duly caution'd to testify the whole truth made oath to the foregoing declaration to which he has set his mark, taken at the request of Benj^{a} West before me

Joseph Greenleaf Justice peace

This may certify that I was at the siege of Quebeck in the year 1775 with Genl Arnold & that Benj^{a} West was also there & taken prisoner, lost his clothes & was left in Captivity

Elias Goddard

Suffolk Feby 7th 1781

Then Elias Goddard appear'd & made oath to the truth of the foregoing certificate by him Subscribed before me

Joseph Greenleaf Justice peace

Memorial of John Allan.

Indian Eastern Department To the Honorable The Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts—¶ The Memorial of John Allan, Continental Agent and Commander in Chief of Indians Eastern Department—

Your Memorialist Having for some Time The Honor of Superintending the affairs of this Department as also the Military Command, by the Smiles of Providence has so far succeeded in the Business as to Secure The Interist of the Indians & Preserving the Country as far as Union River.

The Indians in general have had no Correspondence with the Britons Till Last Summer, When by verry great Encouragement from the Enemy so far had Influence over Them, as

to draw Near the Whole, from This Post — By the Negotiations this fall, Your Memorialist has had the further happiness to secure the Interists of said Indians, As also many More that had not been in Micmaks and others from the Confines of Canada Some of Whome has Removed this Winter on Snow Shoes, the Whole Intending to Leave that River as soon as the Season will Any way Permit —

By the Deffeciency of Supplys, which was Ordered by the former Hono[bl] Court and the present Indigent State Your Memorialist has Labourd under the Greatest Difficultys in his Business, and the Setuation of the Winter being Semiler to the Last, has a Tendency of Much discouragement to the Indians — Your Memorialist Has Transmited to his Excellency the Governor The Setuation of the Department, which your Memorialist would beg Leave to Recommend to Your Honors Notice as of the Greater Consiquence for the Safety of the Country —

Your Memorialist Has Also been Obliged to procure Necessarys to a Considerable Amount, As well for supplying the White Troops as the carrying on The Business of Indians, The Latter of Which will ever Create considerable Expences & which cannot be Evited, perticularly where they Are Liable to have Conections with the Enemy — The Extenciveness of their Terretores the Varrious Sentiments Among them Commands every Attention to Carry a Shew of Dignity & Consiquence, which must be always pursued with Indians —

Your Memorialist Therefore Humbly prays Your Honors to Grant Him £600 for the purpose of Defraying Expences, which has been Contracted & may arrise before Supplys Comes down, as he now stands Indepted for a Considerable Upon his Personal Credit — ¶ Also that your Honors woud Order the Provisions Borrowed as before orderd by Court to be Returnd — That the Rations & Encouragement promised and made by me to the Ranging Company Under

Cap^{n} Dyer Last winter, who were of The Greatest Utility & who Deserves the Greatest Encouragement, May be Granted.

Your Memorialist Humbly Requests that the Encouragements for the Troops there — Supplys for Indians, and other necessarys, for the Public Use before Requested, the Two former Indians in Perticular Your Memorialist Must take the Liberty to Urge with the Greatest Importunity —¶ Your Memorialist further Requests, If he Continues Longer in the business of the Department, that he may have Instructions, in what Manner to proceed in future As Hitherto He has been Unacquainted with what the Government would have perticularly done with the Indians — Only Acted on his Own Judgment ¶ Your Memorialist Begs Leave to Submitt the whole to Your Honour's Wisdom & Consideration, Relying on the Detirmination Respecting The Primesses.

J Allan

Machias February 1st 1781

Petition of John Cushing.

In the House of Representatives Feby 1781

On the Petition of John Cushing praying for leave to Load two ships with masts & Sparrs ¶ Resolved that the prayer thereof be granted and the said John Cushing be & he hereby is permitted to Load the Ship called the Polly John Burk Master & the Ship Black Queen Samuel Dunn Master with Mast & Sparrs for the West Indies any law or Resolve to the Contrary not With standing ¶ Resolved that the Board of War be and they are hereby directed to dispose of what Mast & Spars they have on hand at the Eastward for the most they Can & pay the money they shall receive for the Same to such persons as have Demands on them in behalf of this Common Wealth

The Memorial of Owners of Ships Black Prince and Hector.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled.

May it please your Honours

We your memorialists, late Owners of the Ships Black Prince & Hector, lost at Penobscot, in the service of the Public, having apply'd to the General Assembly of this State, imploring relief & justice without adequate success, humbly desire your attention to this second representation of our Complaint. We beg leave to repeat, that at a time when we were struggling under recent misfortunes, and many of us encountring constant disappointments, in every attempt, even to procure subsistance; when our hopes were most sanguine, while our necessities were most urgent, our Ships were demanded by the authority of the State, and sent on the ruinous enterprize against the Enemy at Penobscot. Since many of us were reduced to depend on the success of our vessels in the Summer Cruize which we had meditated, we were extremely solicitous for the event of an expedition, in which so important a part of our whole Estates was involved; and when some evident circumstances taught us to expect the Calamity which seemed inevitable, we could only wait the event, in melancholy & mortifying Silence.— Relying however on the authority of our country, which promised speedy & ample indemnity, we early took measures for this purpose: but having no immediate prospect of a recompence, so just & reasonable without more serious exertions, we did in Septem^r last present a Memorial to both Houses of Assembly, setting forth our losses, the reasonable hopes on which we grounded our application, and requesting performance of the public faith, pledged to Us in the beginning of the expedition, which promised ample redress in Case of misfortune, without

delay or equivocation. From this application we obtained a Resolve of Court for one thousand pounds each in the new Currency, a Sum of small account in building a twenty Gun Ship,— and for the Balance to be paid in public Notes of Credit, which to us as merchants could be of little present value, unless to remind us of that former wealth, which enabled us to make these unrewarded Exertions,— and of our cruel Disappointment.

Referring Ourselves therefore to this Honble Assembly, the first, formed under a Constitution of Government proffessing Justice and Liberty as its Object, and founded on the basis of public Virtue, we humbly take leave to observe,— that our Necessities are not slight and equivocal, but Serious, important and distressing — that we sue to your Honours not for a ratification of the contract, but that it may be cancelled and completed,—that the Compensation we now expect, is either in Ships, as valuable as those taken from us,— or the direct means of procuring them our selves: — that altho' the ultimate value of public Notes is indisputable, yet they cannot be received, or considered by Us, as an equivalent to property, that cannot be purchased with them;— and that current Money alone, will enable Us in any decent measure, to redress our calamitous circumstances, and therefore can alone be considered as the equivalent, so solemnly pledged to Us by the highest authority, in the Commencement of this Contract.

We do therefore most earnestly but dutifully entreat the attention of this honorable Assembly to our Memorial; that we may be enabled to make those great & expensive Exertions, which the Circumstances of our Country now require, and which are expected from every Freind to the Commonwealth; and being secure in the religious observance of the public faith, that we may be ready at all times when demanded, to

aid every public Exertion, with the Zeal of our Hearts, and the Weight of our private Fortunes.—

Geo Williams
pr order of the owners of ship Black prince
Jon^{a} Peele Junr
pr order of the Owners of the Ship Hector

Resolve on Petition of Williams and Peel.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb'y 5 1781

The Committee appointed to Consider the Petition of Capt George Williams & Jonathan Peel in behalf of themselves & the other Owners of ye Ships Hector & Black Prince lost in ye Penobscot Expedition — (Praying they may be immediately paid for s^{d} Ships &c for reasons set forth in said Petition) Have attend^{d} that Service, & after duly considering the same, find it is not possible for Government in the present state of ye Treasury and the immediate demands on it for the support of ye Army, to discharge s^{d} Debts at this time —

Therefore Resolved that s^{d} Petitioners, be directed as soon as possible to settle the acct^{s} of s^{d} Losses with the Board of War, & ascertain the exact balances due to them, & that the General Court will, as soon as the state of ye Treasury will admit of it, Make provision for the payment of the same —

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Feby 15th: 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Pres^{dt}

Approved John Hancock.

Petition James Littlefield.

To the hon^ble^ Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts the Petition of James Littlefield humbly sheweth —

That your Petitioner supplied the Indians under the Command of Col° John Allan with the Articles mentioned in the annexed Account amounting to sixty eight pounds 12/ in hard money & he humbly prays your Honors that you would be pleased to order him Payment for the same in such money as is equivalent or in such other Way as to your Honors may in Justice & Equity see fit & your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray —

James Littlefield

The United States To James Littlefield Dr.

To Sundrys Supply'd a party of Men & Indians at Passamaquody Commanded by Major George Stillman, under Colo Allans Command in Augt 1779 Viz^t^

15 ℔ Tea — @ 6/	£4	10–
20 ℔ Sugar @ 1/—	1	—
½ barrell Pork	3	14
½ C Bread	1	10
10 Gallon West Indian Rum	6	
	16 ..	14–

Suffolk Ss

Boston Feby 6th 1781

Personally appeared Capt James Littlefield the Signer of the within Acc^t^ & made Solemn Oath that the Same was just & True Before me

To Sundrys Supply'd Said Indians in the service under Col° Allan's Superintendency Viz^t^

1½ barrells Pork	3	14
2 bbls flour 4	8	—
1 Tierce Rice 5–1–0 48/	12	12

500 W^{t} of Ship Bread	15	—
1½ bbles Beef	2	—
20 ℔ Sugar	1	—
4 Blankets @ £4 p^{r} Pr	8	—
1 Large Dish (Pewter)	..	12
6 Plates	1	
	£68 ..	12

Boston Feby 1781
Errors Excepted Hard money.

Boston Feby 6th 1781

This may Certifie that the Indians mentioned in the within Acc^{t} were at that Time in the Service of the United States under the Superintendency of Colo John Allan —

Ja^{s} Avery, Agent to said Colo Allan

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 16: 1781

Ordered — that the Committee appointed to consider a Memorial of Col. John Allan & a Letter from s^{d} Co^{l} Allan addressed to the Governor, be a Committee to take into Consideration a Petition of James Littlefield & to report what may be proper to be done thereon—

Sent up for Concurrence —

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 16th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Resolves on Measures of Defence &c.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives, Feby 9, 1781

Whereas the defence of the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth against the unjust encroachments and depredations

of the Enemy is an object that demands the immediate attention of Government, and whereas the time for which the troops late commanded by Brigadier Wadsworth were raised is now elapsed and the Country by that means exposed, not only to the ravages of the Enemy but also to the more rapacious Cruelties of refugee Tories from various parts under their influence & direction. Therefore Resolved, that all the Troops raised or to be raised in the Counties of York Cumberland and Lincoln pursuant to a resolution of this Commonwealth of the second day of december last be and they are hereby detain'd in said Counties untill the further pleasure of Congress and his Excellency Gene^l Washington respecting their future destination be known; but subject in the meantime to the orders and disposition of the s^d Honble Major General Lincoln within said Counties or either of them — ¶ And Whereas a small Naval Establishment within this Commonwealth the ensuing Season is essentially necessary for the security of our Coasts and the protection of our Trade, Therefore Resolved that the two armed Sloops each of which, to mount twelve 4 pounders be immediately procured manned and equipped for Sea, to be employed for the protection of the Sea Coast of this Commonwealth until the first day of Decr next but Subject however to such special orders as the respective Commanders may from Time to Time receive from the Governor of this Commonwealth ¶ And it is further Resolved that the said Sloops during their continuance in Service as aforesaid be on the Establishment made or that may hereafter be made for armed Vessels in the Service of Said Commonwealth. ¶ And it is further Resolved that one Row Gally be also procured and equiped to be under the direction of the Commanding Officer in said Counties for the time being and manned by the Troops as occation may require ¶ And it is further Resolved that two Boatbuilders be appointed to repair the Whaleboats now in

the Counties of Cumberland and Lincoln and to perform such other business as the Commanding Officer shall direct: to be furnished by the Commissary Gen[l] of said Commonwealth with Tools and other articles necessary in that department from time to time that they continue in said Service untill the first day of dec[r] next unless sooner discharged and that they be allowed four pounds each p[r] Month for each Callender month they may be in Service. ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Surgeons who attended the Troops and furnish'd them with their own private medicine, at Falmouth and Thomaston during the last Season be directed to lay their accounts before the General Court for Examination allowance and payment ¶ And whereas the necessity of an early supply of provisions Amunition and other Articles in order to give energy and effect to our military Opperations in these parts is apparently great and indispensible therefore Resolved That the Continental Commissary of Issues now in Boston be requested immediately to procure 200 barrells of Flour and 100 barrells Pork and in case the said Commissary shall be unable to procure the whole or any part of said provisions, the Commissary General of this Commonwealth be and he is hereby directed to procure said Flour and pork or so much thereof as to make up the aforesaid quantity and that the same be charg'd to the United States — And it is further Resolved that the Continental Commissary of warlike Stores be requested immediately to prepare for transportation 2000 pounds of powder and 3000 Flints ¶ And whereas it appears that the said Commissary of warlike Stores is unable to Supply many Articles within his department which will be immediately wanted in the Counties aforesaid — therefore

Resolved that the Commissary General of this Commonwealth be and he is hereby directed immediately to procure and fit for transportation the following Articles and that the

same be charged to the United States vizt 400 fire Arms with an equal number of Bayonets 4000 pounds of Lead 400 Cartridges Boxes 200 hatchets 400 Knapsacks Ten Rheams of Cartridge Paper ten pounds of brown thread suitable for making Cartridges five bullet moulds of different Sizes fitted for running Balls from 16 to 24 in the pound and one Ladle to each mould and one sett of Armourers Tools and in case the said Commissary should be unable to procure the Flour and pork aforesaid for want of money to purchase the same then Oliver Phelps Esqr Superintendant of purchases for this Commonwealth is hereby directed to furnish the Commissary General thereof with said pork and flour or a sufficient sum of money to purchase the same out of the money which he has or may receive in Lieu of Beef ¶ And it is further Resolved that all the articles aforesaid which the several Commissary's aforesaid are directed to procure be delivered to such person or persons as the Governor may appoint to receive and convey the same to Falmouth in the County of Cumberland there to be under the direction (of the Commanding Officer and by him secured in some safe place in said County for the use of the Troops as Occassion may require — ¶ Resolved that the Governor be and he is hereby desired immediately to write to his Excellency General Washington representing the Critical and distressing situation of the three Eastern Counties in said Commonwealth but more especially the County of Lincoln — the importance of said Counties to this and the United States of America, as well as to the Enemy who now consider said Counties as one principal Object of their attention — the necessity of retaining within the same the Troops raised or to be raised in said Counties on the Continental Establishment pursuant to a Resolve of the General Court of the 2^{d} day of Decr last amounting to 473 in the whole and therefore (in behalf of this Commonwealth) to request his Excellency

the General to order that said Troops may be appointed to the immediate defence of said Counties and that they remain within the same during the present unfavorable appearances there — and that his Excellency General Washington Will be pleased to order how said Troops shall be Officered and Arranged —

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^r

In Senate Feby 9th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presid^t

Approv^d John Hancock

True Copy Attest

John Avery Sec^y

Petition Town of Washington.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Novr 27, 1780

To the Honorable Senate and To the Honorable House of Representatives In General Court Assembled —

The Petition of The Town of Washington in the County of Berkshire, in Said Common Wealth Humbly Sheweth — ¶ That The Town of Washington aforesaid in the Year One Thousand Seven hundred & Seventy Seven Was doom'd to find their Quota of one hundred & Thirty Poles in Said Town to Serve in the Army for Three Years or During the Warr ¶ Whereas in fact their was at that Time but seventy four poles and no more.— ¶ That the said poor Town found their Quota for one hundred & thirty men instead of Seventy four, to Serve in the Continental Army — ¶ That The Said poor Young Town is in the Utmost Difficulties, and Unable to pay more then their proportion of Taxes. Most Humbly

Prays Your Honors would Remitt Them their Charge in finding Six Men More then their Quota &c and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

pr order of the above said town

Ahimaas Easton

Resolve in favor of the Town of Washington.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 13, 1781

The Committee appointed to take into Consideration the Complaint made by the town of Washington in Respect to their being Called upon by the General Court to furnish more than their Equil proportion of men in the last Requisition for men to fill up the Continental Army, have attended that Service, and beg leave to Report by way of Resolve

Whereas it appears to this Court that the Town of Washington in the last Valuation were doomed one third part too high, in polls & Estate, upon which doom Six men was apportioned to that Town in the last Requisition for men to fill up the Continental Army Therefore Resolved that the Town of Washington be Required to furnish four men as their Quota of men to fill up the Continental Army for three years or dureing the War with Great Britain, upon the last Requisition, and no more

Sent up for Concurrence Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate Feby 16th 1781

Jer: Powell Presd^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve on Petition of Pepperrellbor^{o}.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Feby 14: 1781

On the Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Pepperrelboro^{r} Praying that they might be releived from Pro-

curing any More Men for the Continental Army. Then an Equal Proportion with other Towns,—

Whereas it appears by the Schedule of Novr 29th last for filling up the Continental Army, That the Town of Pepperrelboro^{r} has one Man More assigned to them by said Schedule then their equal share, and that a Plantation called Shapleyboro^{r} has none assigned to them, which Ought to have One.— Therefore Resolved, One Man be deducted from the Town of Pepperrellboro^{r} and be laid on said Shapleyboro^{r} and the Brigadier of the County of York is hereby Directed to Inform said Town & Plantation of this Resolution that they may conform themselves accordingly.—

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate Feby 14, 1781

Read and concurred

Jer: Powell Presid^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

[For Resolve see date Jany 1st 1781]

Petition of Ebenezer Thomas.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Lincoln Ss To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of said Commonwealth in General Court assembled February 1781

Ebenezer Thomas of Pittston in said County, a Soldier in Col^{o} McCobbs Regiment in the Expedition to Penobscot in the Year 1779, Humbly sheweth, ¶ That on the Retreat from said Penobscot, he was ordered by the General to go on board the Ship Hamden, Capt Salser as a Marine, that he was taken by the Enemy in said Ship, whereby he lost a good Fire-Arm and Cartouch Box, of the Value of four pounds New Currency — He therefore humbly requests your

Honors, that he may have Compensation made him therefore — And your Petitioner, as in Duty bound, shall ever pray &c Ebenezer Thomas

Lincoln Ss February 16, 1781

Then Capt Timothy Heald made Oath, that Ebenezer Thomas a Privet Soldier in his Company, on the Retreat from Penobscot, lost his Fire arm, by the Enimy

Before me

Joseph North

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 1781

On the Petition of Eben Thomas of Pittston, in the County of Lincoln Praying for Compensation for a Fire Arm he lost in the Expedition to Penobscot — ¶Resolved that there be allowed & paid out of the Treasurer of this Common Wealth to Eben Thomas of Pittston the Sum of Three Pounds in the New Emission in full for the loss of his Fire Arm —

Saml Huntington to Govr Hancock.

Philadelphia February 17, 1781

Sir,

By the inclosed Resolve of the 15th Instant your Excellency will be informed of the Sentiments of Congress respecting the Eastern Indian Department; and that the Governor & Council of Massachusetts are empowered to compleat the Company of Artillery at the Post of Machias to a Number not exceeding sixty five Men including Officers, to be under the Command of Colonel J Allen, and to be raised & supported at the Expence of the United States — With the highest respect I have the honor to be your Excellency's Most obed^{t} & Most hble Servant

Sam. Huntington President

His Excelly Governor Hancock

Memorial of Joseph North.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Lincoln Ss. To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the said Commonwealth in General Court assembled

Novem. 1780

Joseph North, of Pittston in said County, Humbly Sheweth, ¶ That the Incursion of the Enemy from Majabaggaduce into the interior Parts of the said County whereby the Brigadier General was captivated, his and the property of others consumed by Fire, Cattle stolen and driven off, and the principal Men of the County, for their Zeal and Attachment to our glorious Cause, in imminent Danger of sharing the same Fate; Together with the Damage done on the Sea Coasts by Numbers of Vessels, particularly Wood-Coasters, being Captured and Destroyed by the Enemy's Privateers and armed Boats, which in a Manner cut off all Communication by Sea between this County and the other parts of the State; and many other Grievances to which the good People of the said County have been for a long Time subject from their near Situation to that Nest of our venomous Foes at Penobscot; rendered it indispensibly necessary that their distressing Circumstances should be made known to those who, next to the Almighty, were alone able to apply a Remedy. ¶ Accordingly, your Petitioner, deeply impressed with the sufferings of his fellow Subjects, and stimulated by his well known Ardour for the publick Weal, did at his own Cost and Charge make a Journey from the said County to Boston & lay their unhappy Case before the Honorable General Assembly, in Consequence of which that August Body, out of their wonted Goodness, sent them such Aid as mitigated their Distresses and perhaps saved the County from Subjugation — For which Services your Petitioner has received no Consideration: He therefore humbly requests Your Excel-

lency and Honors would order him to be paid, out of the Treasury of the Commonwealth, a reasonable Sum for his Time and Expences in the said Services, agreeable to the accompt offered here with. And your Petitioner, as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

Joseph North

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts to Joseph North D^{r}

1780 — Augt Sept.

To Horse Hire on a Journey to Boston to represent to the General Assembly the distressed Situation of the County of Lincoln as set forth in my Petition 200 Miles, at 24/ p Mile —	240 .. 0 .. 0
To my Expences to & from Boston —	240 .. 0 .. 0
To my Expences while attending the General Court, 4 Weeks at £90	360 .. 0 .. 0
Horse-Keeping same Time at 40 Doll^{s} p Day	336 .. 0 .. 0
To Attendance on the General Court 28 Days, at £12	336 .. 0 .. 0
	1512 .. 0 .. 0

Pittston Nov. 1, 1780 Errors Excepted

Joseph North

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Feb. 17th 1781

On the Petition of Joseph North praying that he may be allowed a reasonable Sum for his Time and expence for Attending the Genl Court in Aug^{t} & September last to represent the Distressed Curcumstances of the Eastern parts of this State ¶ Resolved that Joseph North be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth for Twenty Days Travil and Ten Days Attending the Genl Court at Twelve Shillings New Emission pr Day in Whole Eighteen Pounds in full for his time and expence in performing said Service.

Resolve Relating to Falmouth.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives February 19 1781

Resolved that Joseph Noyes of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland be & he hereby is directed to lay his Accounts of Supplies & Expenditures in the Quarter Master's department to the Troops at the Post at Falmouth and also for what provision & other Necessaries he has Purchased for the use of said Troops before the Committee on account for allowance & payment which sums are to be Charged to the Continent

In Senate February 19th 1781

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Disposal of Spars.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feby 19th 1781

Whereas there are a Number of Masts & other Sparrs in the Eastern parts of this Common Wealth belonging to this Government — for which there is no imediate use — and it may be greatly for the interest of the publick that the masts & sparrs afors'd should be speedily disposed of Therefore Resolved that Jedediah Prebble Esqr be appointed and authorized and he is hereby accordingly authorized to dispose of such masts, and sparrs belonging to this Government as are under the care of Wm Frost at Falmouth = and that Thos. Rice Esqr be appointed and authorized and he is hereby authorized to dispose of the masts & sparrs belonging

to this Government that are under the care of Timothy Parsons at Wiscasset Point — And that James M^c^Cobb Esqr be appointed and authorized and he is hereby accordingly authorized to dispose of the Masts & Sparrs belonging to this Government that are under the care of s^d^ Timothy Parsons afors^d^ at Kenebec for the most said Masts & Sparrs will fetch & pay the money arizing therefrom imediately into the publick Treasury taking duplicate Receipts therefor one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's Office — ¶ And it is further Resolved that the said Jedediah Prebble Thos Rice and James M^c^Cobb Esqr^s^ render an account of their proceedings respecting the Sale of the Masts & Sparrs afor^d^ to the General Court as soon as possible after said Masts & Sparrs are disposed of they to receive such compensation for transacting s^d^ business as the General Court shall hereafter order And it is further Resolved that the afors^d^ Wm Frost and Timothy Parsons be directed and they are hereby accordingly directed to deliver all such Masts and Spars as are in their possession belonging to this Government to the Persons respectively appointed to sell the same —

Sent down for Concurrence Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives Feb^ry^ 22^d^ 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of Christopher Newbit.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Feby 20th 1781

On the Representation of John Lucas Commissary of Continental Pensioners in behalf of Christopher Newbit a Soldier in Philip M. Ulmers Company who lost his Arm by

a Cannon Ball in a Battle with the Enemy at Majorbigwaduce the 28th July as appears by his Certificate—

Resolved that the said Christopher Newbit is entitled to half pay as a Soldier to commence from the 28th Sept 1779 the time of his discharge—

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spkr

In Senate Feby 20th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock.

Waldoborough July 24th 1780

These may Certify that Christopher Newbit was A Soldier in A Company Commanded by me and Lost his arm in Battle at Majorbigwaduce July 25th 1779 and behavd himself as a good Soldier whilest under my Command

To it may Concern—

Philip M Ulmer Majr

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives

John Lucas, In behalf of Christopher Newbit a Soldier in Phillip M. Ulmer's Company and who lost his Right Arm the 28th July 1779 at Majorbigwaduce, as appears by his certificates

John Lucas Comdry

Pension Office at Boston, 7th Novr 1780

Resolve in Favor of Andrew Woiseaker.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives Feby 20 1781

On the Representation of John Lucas Commissary of Continental Pensioners in behalf of Andrew Woiseaker who was Imprest & sent on Board the ship Putnam & in an Engagement at Penobscot lost his Right Arm in August 1779 as

appears by his Certificate ¶ Resolved that the said Andrew Woiseaker is intitled to half pay as a Soldier to commence from the 1st of September 1779 the time of his discharge

Sent up for concurrence Caleb Davis Spkr

In Senate Feby 20th 1781

Read & Concurred Jer: Powell Preside

Approv'd John Hancock

We the under written, Commander & Surgen of Ship Putman, in the Service of this State, Do Certify That Mr Andrew Woiseaker of Boston Butcher was Imprest and sent on board the afore sd Ship, and went to Penobscot, whare he behaved with Great Gallantry, & Courage & In an Engagement unhappily Lost his right Arm in Augst, 1779 —

Daniel Waters Capt

William Truen Surgn

Boston Apl. 20, 1780 —

The above is a trew Coppy

Attest Jno Lucas Comy

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives

John Lucas In behalf of Andrew Woiseaker and who lost his right arm at Penobscot in Augst 1779 as appears by his Certificates John Lucas Comary

List of Wounded at Penobscot.

Pension Office at Boston Novr 9th 1780

Andrew Woiseaker wounded at Penobscot, Jno McGoffe Service State Brigt Tyraniside Benjn Slader — ditto Jos. Brick Continental Army × Jonas Shattuck — ditto — John Brick, Continental Ship — Christ Newbit — Penobscot — Aron Cobbet — Queen France × Wm Pedrick Continental — Thos Shaw — ditto — Phillip Audebert — State Brigt Luther Littel — do — Asa Ware — Contl Army. dld Doctr Downer, Sawyer's report

Resolve in Favor of Ebenezer Perkins.

To the Honble the Senate, & House of Representatives of the Common Welth of the State of ye Massachusetts Bay

John Lucas, In behalf of Ebenezer Perkins, a Marine on board the Continental Ship Warren Commanded by Dudley Saltonstal and who was wounded at Penobscott by a ball's entering his brest & passing through part of his Shoulder & Arm, by which he has lost the use of it — as appears by a Coppey of his Certificates —

John Lucas Coms^{ry}

Pension Office at Boston 26th Novr 1780

This to Certify that Ebenezer Perkins Served as a marine on board the Ship Warring Dudly Saltonstal Commander, upon the Expedition Against Penobscot as Appears by the Warrens Books

William Vernon for the board

Navey Board at Boston 13th April 1780

This may certifie that Ebenezer Perkins was badly wounded by a ball that Passed into his brest and out through part of his Shoulder & Arm, by which he has lost the use of it

Jos. Gardner Serg^{n}

Trew Coppey from the Records —

John Lucas Commissary of Pensions

Boston 13th April 1780

Commonwealth of Massachusets

In the House of Representatives Feby 20th 1781

On the Representations of John Lucas Commessary of Pensionors in behalf of Ebenezer Perkins a mercan on Bord the Continental Ship Warren who was wounded at Penobscut by a ball's entring his brest and goen through part of his shoulder and arm by which he has lost the use of his arm

as Appears by his Certificates Therefore Resolved that the said Ebenezer Perkins is intitled to one third pay as a merean to Commence from the 13th of Apriel 1780

Sent up for Concurrence Caleb Davis Spkr

In Senate Feby 20th 1781

Read & Concurred —

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Authorizing Benj. Chadbourn to Prosecute Trespassers.

Commonwealth Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 20th 1781

Whereas there is a tract of land in the County of York of about three mile Square called Cook's lott on the Western side of Saco River, and adjoining thereunto without the bounds of any Incorporated Town, upon which there are many valuable White Pine Masts: a considerable part of which lot is the property of this Commonwealth; and as it is said that some persons have made strip and waste thereon, and are again preparing to carry off the pine Masts — aforesaid by cutting them into mill logs & for other uses — Therefore to prevent any further destruction of said Timber and also that such as have heretofore Trespassed on said Lott may be called upon to make speedy satisfaction therefor ¶ It is Resolved that Benjamin Chadbourn of Berwick in the County of York Esqr Be and hereby is fully Authorized and impowred, in the name and on the part of this Commonwealth to join with the other Proprietors or Tenants in Common of the said Tract in commencing & prosecuting to final Judgement and Execution any person or persons that have unlawfully entred and Committed any Trespass on said Lott — Since the first day of Jany 1775 or that hereafter may

Commit Trespasses thereon — Said Chadbourn to appear in person, or by such Attorney as he may see cause to appoint, and on the part of this Government, to submit to refrence any action or suit or suppos[d] cause of action in the same way & manner — other partys in their own suits have usually submitted them said Chadbourn to account with the Judge of Probate for York County, for their Government proportion of the Damages that may be received & rais'd by him and to pay into the Treasury of the Government, such Sum or Sums as may on his account so examind & allow[d] appear to be due to the State, and the — Treasurer's But shall be a full discharge for all such sums as he may pay — And it is farther Resolved that if any Person have entred on said lot with an intention of Selling thereon without leave of the owners that the said Benjamin may join with the other Tenant in Common in Commencing & prosecuting to final Judg[t] and Execution Actions of Trespass or Ejectment against such Intruders as the Call may require — Any law usage or Resolve to the Contrary Notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk[r]

In Senate February 21st 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi[dt]

Approv'd John Hancock

Letter of Benjamin Lincoln to Governor.

Boston Feb[ry] 22 1781

Sir

I find by a resolve of the General Court of the 9th Inst, that they are apprehensive for the safety of the eastern part of this Commonwealth; and from late accounts, I am convinced, that their fears are not unduly alarmed: for it can hardly be doubted but that the enemy will attempt a sub-

jugation of it, considering the case, with which it might be effected in its present situation; and the advantages which would result to the enemy from the measure. The conquest of that part of the Country would open to them their useful and most necessary mast trade, and afford them a large supply of lumber now absolutely necessary in their West India Islands, to repair the injuries of the late hurricane. It would also give them a large tract of territory, and facilitate their extending their conquest westward either by their acts or their arms. In addition to these powerful inducements the enemy know, that their conquest will be loss of a considerable extent of our territory, deprive us of a valuable proportion of inhabitants, the principal means of supporting our trade to the West Indies, and exceedingly distress our seaports, by taking from them a source whence they receive their fuel and other necessary supplies. ¶ If these observations are justly founded it is undoubtedly the indispensable duty of this Commonwealth to adopt in season the most effectual measures to counteract the designs of the enemy and provide for the safety and happiness of its own inhabitants. ¶ Is it not then necessary to take into consideration the critical state of the eastern part of this Government and what measures are necessary to be pursued for its safety and to enquire particularly what State of defence the town of Falmouth is in — whether the works there are compleated — If not what time it will take to compleat them — what number of cannon there are mounted — what size — and what number more and what size are necessary for the works — whether the works when compleated will so cover the town as should the enemy attempt it will reduce them to the necessity of making a regular siege — whether the channel can be so stopped or the harbour so commanded as to force the enemy to a land attack only — whether there is a proper powder magazine — what quantity of powder there is in it — what

quantity will be necessary in case of a siege and other military stores — what number of men will be necessary fully to garrison the town — If the town is not and cannot be so secured to what strong post should the stores be removed and what proportion of them — Whether the militia in that country are well officered — whether they are fully supplied with arms ammunition and accoutrements — If they are not what are the deficiencies — and what public supplies will be necessary — and at what place or places they should be lodged — What provisions can be procured in that part of the country & what kind — what quantity and kind must be provided and sent and where stored — what guards are now necessary and where they should be stationed. ¶ Does it not also appear necessary to request his Excellency the Governor to direct that a certain part of the Militia in the Counties of Essex and York hold themselves in readiness to march on the shortest notice eastward if required and apply to Congress to recommend to the State of New Hampshire to hold a certain proportion of their militia in readiness to march either at the request of this Commonwealth or the officer commanding in the eastern part of it.

I have the honor to be Sir with great esteem your most obedient servant B Lincoln

Hon Caleb Davis Esq Speaker

Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

In the House of Representatives Feb^{ry} 22^{d} 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Mr Noys Major Lithgow & Mr Lombard with such as the hon Senate shall join be a Committee to take this letter into consideration & report what is necessary to be done thereon —

In Senate Feby 22^{d} 1781

Sent up for concurrence Caleb Davis Speaker

Read & Concurred and Jedediah Prebble and Thomas Durfee Esq^{rs} are joined Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Wm. McCobb to the Commanding Officer at Falmouth.

Srs.

Altho unacquainted with you, but holding an unwavring mind in Respect of the Justice of the great cause now in Dispute between Great Britain & America (I mean on the side of America) Causes me to Inform your Honours that I have this Day been Informed by two friends of undouted credit who says they have undoughted Information that a plan is now forming by our publick Enemy, to take post at Falmouth in Casco Bay before the Spring Opens — the method to be procured is the Cannon in the fortifications is to be Disabled by sum Intarnel Enemies on Shore = while a partie by Sea, is to Land and take possession of the fortifications = where they Expect to Reside and Remain in Quiat as at Majorbagaduce = matters at this Present Day are so conducted which gives much trouble of mind to all Friends to the American Caus among us in these parts = Allwais looking upon it to be my Duty to give Notice of the least Approchertion of Danger, I would beg you s^r^ to be on your watch against secret Enemies as well as Publick = I Remain S^r^ with Respect your Hum^le^ Sar^t^

Wm M^c^Cobb

Boothbay Feby 23^d^ 1781

N. B. There Intentions seems to be to make a sudden push ——

To the Commanding Officer at Falmouth

Committee of Georgetown to Governor.

Sir, We think it expedient to acquaint your Excelency by way of express that on the 7 of this Month a Ship, thought to be the Dileware ancord in Townsend harbour & burned two Sloops that were haled into a Creek; an Armed Brig Ancord in Sheepscut River & landed some Men before Day at Decon

Sayers, & robed the House of every thing except a bed on which his Daughter had Just lainin then set the House on fire, but by the exertions of the Robed Deacon the House was saved, others have suffered the loss of Cloaths & great abuses, these Vessels are attended with six small schooners, one of which is at the Mouth of our River with whaleboats: our intelligences from Boothbay is not from any Publick Authority, we there fore sent an express but no return, which gives us reason to fear that all the Inhabitants on the Sea Coast eastward of Sheepscut River are subjugated — The Wigs on our sea-coast have been under arms ever since the Alarm, this Day we are fixing a Guard of thirty Men to continue at the Rivers Mouth till our Express returns — the large body of Snow forbids the colecting the scatered Malitia if they were Constitutinaly Officered except they were furnished with Snow shoes — We are determined to Stand if possible — Our peculiar Distressing curcumstances on this unexpected Alarm urges us to pray for a Navel Protection lest we are left to the Dire Alternative! of making peace with our implacable Enimies or fleeing in this inclement season — It is conjectured by this extrordenary Meanuver, that our Enimies mean to take advantage of our being blockt up with Snow to Subdue the Seacoast in this unexpected Season thereby paveing the way to Falmout — We hope that neither the incorrectness of the above account, nor the simplessity of our Prayer will hinder that spedy releife that the Alarming situation of your loving Constituants call for — ¶ Capt Jon^{a} Davis by whom we send this is able to give a more perticular account —

Your Excelency's most Obedient humble Servants

Wm Swanton
Dum^{r} Sewall
} Committee of Georgetown

Georgetown Feb^{r} 23^{d} 1781 —

To his Excelency John Hancock Esqr

In Senate March 2d 1781 —

Read & thereupon Ordered that Jedidiah Preble & Jona Greenleaf Esqrs with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to take this Letter into Consideration, and make a Report there

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives March 2d 1781

Read & concurred & Major Lithgow Mr Wells & Mr Lewis are join'd

Caleb Davis Speaker

Committee of Georgetown to Wm. Lithgow.

Dear Sir: Our seacoast is infested — Our situation distressing — Our Enimies are taking advantage of our security by Ice & Snow — A Brittish Ship ancord in Townsend, a Brig in Sheepscut, & six small Vessels about the Coast, one in the Mouth of Kenebeck with Whaleboats — Two Sloops burnt in David Reeds Creek — Decon Sayer of Boothbay surprised last Sabath Morning & Robed of every thing in his House except a Bed under his Daughter who had Just lain in — Mr Herinton of Edgcom robed & abuesed — a boats company of 16 landed at Pettegrows, Plundring & Burning certain on the Banks of Kenebeck was their design — This extreordeny Meanuver of our Enimies at this sevear Season seams to speak a design of Subjugation — The Snow near 3½ feet — Roads blocked up — Our Malitia not Constitutionally organized, these things maks the Matter serious — The Wigs have been under Armes seven Days, this Day we

are forming a Guard of thirty Men on the Credit of the Town, and have agreed to send Capt Davis Express to Boston — We flatter ourselves with a Naval protection immediately from Boston — We are determin'd to sell our littel all at as high a price as posible — The thought of sewing for Peace with Robers, or Fleeing in this inclement Season is too Painfull — We are morrily sure that authority will not wate to see some of our not enough Notised Wigs flee naked with Harts too full of simpithy to relate the Destress of their second selves left behind — but we forbair we know nothing in your Power will be wanting — We are fearfull of all below Sheepscut River as no intiligence but some that stole away — Capt Parker has sent a Man on purpose to Boothbay who hath not yet returned — This is not a mear motion of the Committee but the most respectable Inhabitants —

Yours with the greatest Regard —

Wm Swanton Jun } Committee of Georgetown
Dum^{r} Sewall }

To William Lithgow Jun Esqr

P. S. yours to Dum^{r} Sewall by Capt Turner is answered by the same.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 2^{d} 1781

Read & committed to the Committee to whom was committed the Letter from George Town to his Excelly the Governor dated Feb^{ry} 23^{d} 1781 —

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate March 2^{d} 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer Powell Presi^{dt}

Despatch Relative to Capture of Genl. Wadsworth.

Head Quarters Thomaston Feby 23^{d} 1781

May it please Your Excellency

I now dispatch Major Burton as an express to informe you of the loss of our Worthy Brig^{r} Genl Wadsworth, whoes quarters was surround^{d} in the Night of the 17th Instant by a party of men from Majorbigwaduce and he after an obstinate engagement was wound'd, and taken prisoner with, his waiter and two men, his behaviour through the whole Scene was the most Soilder like he wounding three men — I have now sent forward two letters, one to your Excellency, the other to the Commisary of Prisoners from the Genl which I recev'd on the return of a Flag, that I dispatch'd immediately on hearing of his being taken. Must refer you to Major Burton for further particulars being the person that command'd the Flag — Altho' in great hast I look upon it as my duty to informe you, that our scituation at present is very dangerous, there not being more than six men left on the ground, and without haveing immediate Assistance from the western parts of this Country, or else where, must of Course fall a prey to our enemys. I have the Honor to be Your Excellencys most Obedient & very Humble Servant —

Mason Wheaton

Col: of the 4th Reg^{t} of Militia in the County of Lincoln

To His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

In Senate March 5th 1781

Read & Sent down Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Resolve on Memorial of Col. Allen and Petition of James Littlefield.

The Committee of both Houses on the letter of the 26th of Jany last & the Memorial of Feby the 1st from Col^{o} John Allen Commander of the Garrison at Machias and Superin-

tendant of the Indian Eastern Department; and also the Petition of James Littlefield praying that his Account for supplies of a party of Men & Indians at Passamequody, have attended the service & report that the petition & account of said Littlefield not being supported that the Petitioner have liberty to withdraw them: and the Committee on the aforesaid letter & Memorial of Col° Allen also report as their opinion, That it is of importance for the support and defence of the Eastern Department of this Common Wealth that the resolves of the 28th of November last respecting supplies thereof, & "requesting the Governor, with the advice of Council, to leicence some suitable Person to have an exclusive right to trade with & supply the said Indians in the Eastern department, with necessaries untill the further order of the General court, to be under such orders & regulations as the Governor & Council shall think necessary" be carried into effect; and that Col° John Allen be further supplied with such articles as are necessary for the supply of the Indians, to preserve a friendly intercourse with them & prevent a connection with the Enemy, and that he encourage the Indians to keep to their hunting to avoid expence as much as possible.—And it appearing to Your Committee that the orders in the aforesaid resolve for enlisting from among the Militia within the said Eastern department forty Men for the defence thereof has not been attended with success for want of sufficient encouragement for remedy whereof & to provide further for said Department. Your Committee report the following resolves:

Jn° Pitts pr order

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feby 24th 1781

Resolved that the Commissary General be & he hereby is directed to deliver to Lieut James Avery Agent to Col° Allen Superindant to the Eastern Indian department, One hundred

Bushels of Corn, two hogsheads of Rum & One Quarter Cask of Wine, to be sent at different times, in such proportions thereof as the Governor & Council shall direct; and that there be paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to the Commissary General or his order to Enable him to procure the said articles the Sum of one hundred & Fifty pounds of the New Emmission and it is also Resolved that the Agents for cloathing be & hereby are directed to deliver to said Avery — Cloath & trimings of a suitable quality, sufficient for forty suits of Cloths, & forty Blankets as a bounty for the men ordered to be raised by the resolve of the 28th of November last to augment the Garrison of Machias.— And as it appears by the Memorial of Col° Allen, that considerable expences have arose by reason of his not having supplies in time, for which he is indebted, therefore resolved that there be paid out of The Treasury of this Common Wealth to Col° John Allen or his order, the Sum of six hundred pounds new Emission, to defray the expences aforesaid: He to be accountable for the same. ¶ And whereas the Critical State of the eastern Department requires all possible attention for its support & defence, wch is of great consequence not only to this Common Wealth, but the United States in General, therefore resolved that the Governor be & hereby is requested to continue to write to Congress that what has been & may be advanced by this Government for the support & defence of the Eastern Country, may be carried to the credit of this Common Wealth —

Read & sent down — Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives Febry 26, 1781

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 26th 1781

Read & Concurred Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Order Relative to Unappropriated Lands.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate February 26th 1781

Ordered, that Jedidiah Preble & Jona Greenleaf Esqrs with such as the Honorable House shall join, be a Committee to ascertain the Unappropriated Lands belonging to this Commonwealth lying between Saco River, and the State of New Hampshire, and to ascertain the Boundary Line & Lines between the Land belonging to this Commonwealth lying in the place aforesaid and the Lands claimed by the Proprietors holding under Major William Phillips and Bridget Phillips — and to Report at the next Session of the General Court.

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell, Presidt

In the House of Representatives March 2d 1781

Read & concurred as taken into a new draught & John Lewis, William Lithgow & the hon. David Sewall Esqr are joined

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 1st 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Jas Richardson to Charles Miller About Supplies.

Boston Feby 26th 1781

Dear Sir.

Being hond last Evening with a Resolve of the Honble General Court of this Common Wealth requesting me to furnish immediately Two hund Barrells of Flour & One hund Barrells of Pork for the use of Four hund & seventy three Con-

tinental Troops necessarily detained for the protection of the three Eastern Counties in this Common Wealth which the Enemy now consider as one principal object of their attention —¶ I beg you will be pleased without loss of time to procure & deliver me Two hund^{d} Barrells of Flour & One hund^{d} Barrells of Pork accordingly or with such part thereof as may be in your power whereby you will essentially promote the Interest of the United States & greatly oblige ¶ Dr Sir

y^{r} most Obed^{t} & very Hb^{le} Servt —

Ja^{s} Richardson D C G Issues

(Copy)
Charles Miller Esqr

Reply to Same.

Boston February 26, 1781

Sir

Your favour of this day have Duly Received and note the Contents — It would give me great pleasure, was it in my Power to Comply with your Request in Supplying you with 200 barrels Flour, & 100 barrels Pork, but it is not; I am Largely indebted now for the Bread I have Supply'd this Department with for the Last three Months I have Repeatedly Wrote the Commissary Genl of Purchases for Supply of money to support this Department & he has Assured me from time to time that he wou'd Support me with Cash but he has not done it I have not Received a Dollar from him Since Last may & this Department is now Supported with Bread on my Credit When I shall be able to Discharge the Debts I have already Contracted for the Public I know not — & I do not think it prudent for me to Involve myself any further in Debt if any person would Trust me When I see so little prospect of being Supply'd with Cash to Discharge

those Already Contracted — If the General Court will point out any way that I may be Supply'd with Cash to purchase those Articles with I can procure them on the Shortest notice — and this is now the only Regular Mode that Continental Troops can be Supply'd in I always have the Interest of the United States at Heart and you must be Sensible that I have ever Exerted myself in Support of the Department —

I am Sir, Your most Obe^{d} Servt

Charles Miller D C G P.

James Richardson Esq. D C G I.

Resolve in Favor of Town of Fryeburg.

Common Welth of Massachusetts

in the House of Representatives Feby 26th 1781

The Committee appointed to take into Consideration the Requisition for men Laid on the town of Fryeburg by a Resolve of the General Court of the 2^{d} of December 1780 have attended that Service and it appears to your Committee that the town of Fryeburg have more men Required of them then their Proportion therefore Beg Leve to Report by way of Resolve — ¶Resolved that the town of Fryburg be and they hereby are Excused from Raising of three men of the Quota assigned them by the Resolve of Decr 2^{d} afores^{d}

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate February 26th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Approv^{d} John Hancock

Resolve in Favour of Moses Gunn.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb. 27 1781

Whereas Moses Gunn Representative for the Town of Montague in the Year 1777 attended his duty in said House for 15 days in that year in the May and November Sessions for which & one Travel he hath not been made up in any Pay Roll ¶ Resolved that he the said Moses Gunn be made up in the pay Roll of this Session for the fifteen Days Attendence and Travel aforesaid at the Same Rate as other Members are made up & that the same be charged to the Town of Montague in the next Tax.

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speak^{r}

In Senate February 27th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Approv^{d} John Hancock.

John McLellan to the Governor.

Falmouth Feby 27th 1781

Sir

The Inclosd I Rece^{d} this Day & thought it my Duty to forward it to your Excelencey without Delay We have had Divers reports that the Enemy are Meditating an Attackt upon this place but what ever Theire real Intentions may be we think it will be Prudant to be provided for the worst— We therefore beg leave to request that your Excelency Will order to this place such supplies of Men & provisions And warlike stores as will be Necessary to make an Effectual Defence, the Importance of this place to this State & the Other United States, & the Advantage it will be to our Enemy If

they should git possession of it Need not be mentoned to your Excelencey — At present we are in A Defenceless State Destitute of Almost every Necessary for making a Defence Small armes in perticular and Officers — And what few men we have had at this post this Winter are Allmost Naked for want of their Cloathing Not having received Aney since they Engaged — But for particulars I must Refer your Excelencey to Mr Hall the bearer who Can Inform your Excelencey of the State of the Garrison here & who your Excelencey May put the Greatest Confidence in Am Sir your Excellenceys most Obedt & Verrey Hmble Servt

Jos McLallen
Commanding Officer at Falmouth

His Excellencey John Hancock Esqr
Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 3: 1781

Read & committed to the Committee of both Houses on Genl Lincoln's Letter of 22 ulto respects the Guards of the Eastern Coast

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate March 3d 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Jas. Richardson to Genl. Court.

Boston Feby 27th 1781

Honble Sir

In the Evening of the 25th Inst having the honor to receive a Resolve of the Honble General Court of this Common Wealth requesting me to procure Two hund Barrls of Flour & one hund Barrells of Pork for the use of Four hund

& seventy three Continental Troops detained for the defence of the three Eastern Counties of this Common Wealth — ¶ I made immediate application to Chas Miller Esqr D C Genl Purch^{s} for the Continent requesting him to procure & deliver me the said Two hund^{d} Barrells of Flour & one hund^{d} Barr^{ls} of Pork — a Copy of my application with his Answer I beg leave to enclose for your Hon^{rs} perusal & am with perfect respect Honble Sir y^{r} Hon^{rs} most Obed^{t} & very Hb^{le} Servt

Ja^{s} Richardson D C D Issues

The Honble Benjn Lincoln Esqr

Resolve in re Treasurer of Boothbay.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 1, 1781

On the representation of the Major part of the Select men of Boothbay To this Court dated October 25, 1780 ¶ Resolved That Nathl Thwing Esq of Woolwich, Dummer Sewall Esqr of George Town, and Waterman Thomas Esqr of Thomaston All in the County of Lincoln be, and they are hereby appointed a Committee to enquire into the Representation made by the Select Men of Boothbay in said County, and if they find the facts to be as set forth in said Representation, that they see the Treasurer's accounts of said Town adjusted as soon as may be, and the late Treasurer mentioned in said Representation and the present Treasurer are hereby directed to attend the business of Settlement as aforesaid. And they are also directed to order a Settlement with the Delinquent Militia officers in said Town, and they are hereby directed to pay the fines received by them into the Treasury of said Town for the Use of said Town. The Expence arrising in Consequence of the above to be paid by

the Town of Boothbay. And the Committee aforesaid are directed to make Known of their doings to this Court as soon as may be

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate March 1st 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Report of Committee in re Defence of Eastern Country.

The committee to whom was refered the Letter from General Lincoln on the state of the Eastern Country beg leave to report — That from the reasons he has offered and others which have come to their knowledge there is the highest probability that the Enemy means to attempt the subjugation of it in the Spring & that the present defenceless situation of that Country is but an invitation to them to take possession of it — That the Works at Falmouth are quite inadequate to cover the Town and that they are deficient in Artillery & Stores — That the Militia are by no means fully organized or properly supplyed with Arms & Ammunition — That the Country doth not afford a full supply of any one article of Provision at this season of the Year and at the best meat only — Your committee beg leave therefore further to observe that in their opinion a good Work on Mount Joy at the Easterly part of the Town of Falmouth, and other Works at the Westerly part (at both of which places Works are begun) with proper out Works and suitable Cannon mounted in them will cover the Town and prevent the Enemy from making a lodgement in any part thereof which will not be commanded by those Works, those Works will also command the Harbour and prevent any Ships lying within reach of the Town unless sub-

jected to the Fire of the Forts — That ten Cannon at least from Eighteens & upwards will be necessary in addition to those already there to compleat the Works.— That 10056 thousand round shot and pounds of Grape will be necessary according to the annexed schedule & twenty Tuns of powder— That the Works should be such at the places aforesaid as when compleated they will reduce the Enemy to the necessity of a regular Siege before they can be carried which will give so much time to call in the neighbouring Militia that they will probably be in force to raise the Siege or cover the Garrison in coming of when opposition shall no longer avail should they be reduced to so unhappy a situation — That three hundred men will be necessary for a constant Garrison in Falmouth during the summer who may be employed in compleating the Works — but no provision need be made for raising them untill an answer be received from Congress respecting the destination of the men raised in ye three lower Counties — That two hundred Barrels of Beef & Pork and the same number of barrels of Flour be sent as soon as may be to Falmouth for the use of the Troops & that sixty Barrels of Beef & Pork & sixty Barrels of Flour lye for the use of the Garrison in case of a Siege and that the Commissary have orders to keep that supplyed, at least, always on Hand — That five hundred stands of Arms and Accoutrements Ten thousand Flints, 2000 pounds Musket powder 4000 pounds of lead or musket ball of different sizes, proper paper & thread for making cartridges be lodged in some safe magazine in the rear of the Town That three hundred men be stationed in the County of Lincoln to act there or in the neighbouring Country as the safety & good of the whole may require to be raised as shall be ordered in future — That his Excellency the Governor, be requested to order one half of the militia in the Counties of Lincoln, Cumberland York & Essex to hold themselves in readiness to

march at the shortest notice to the Aid of the Eastern part of this commonwealth when called by him to that service or the officer commanding in the Eastern part of it on the approach of the Enemy and to continue thus in readiness for the first two months after & then the other half & so in rotation untill the close of the year at least — That his Excellency the Governor be also desired to address Congress & request that they would recommend to the state of New Hampshire to hold one half of their Militia in readiness at all times to march to the Aid of the Eastern part of this State to march at his Call or at the Call of such officer as he shall appoint. All which is submitted —

Jedediah Preble p^r order

In Senate February 27th 1781

Read and Sent down

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

Resolve Relating to Supplies, and New Hampshire Troops For Defence.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Senate March 1 — 1781

Whereas there is great reason to apprehend that the Enemy have in contemplation the reduction of some part of the three eastern Counties in this Commonwealth, or that by taking possession of some advantageous post they aim at effecting an additional permanent Establishment therein — And Whereas the provision already made for completing the Works at Falmouth for raising Men necessary for the defence of said Counties, and for Supplying the Troops destined or that may hereafter be destined to serve in the same, is inadequate to so important an End — therefore —

Resolved that Seven hundred Men be appropriated to the defence of the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth the en-

suing Campaign, to be raised on such establishment, & for such time as the General Court shall hereafter order in the mean Time that the Governor be & is hereby requested to order a Detachment of such parts of the Militia as he with the Advice of Council may judge necessary for their immediate Defence who together with the Militia serving in the County of Lincoln shall be on such and such an Establishment as the General Court shall hereafter Order

That 200 barrells of Beef and Pork and the like quantity of Flour be procured for the use of said Troops, and such of the Militia as may be raised on any emergency for the defence of the said Counties or either of them, at the discretion of the Governor or the Commanding Officer in said Counties.

That 500 Stand of Arms with their Accoutrements, 10000 Flints 2000 lb of Musket powder, 4000 lb. of Lead, or Musket Ball of different sizes, a quantity of paper and thread proper for making Cartridges, 10 pieces of Cannon from 18 pounders and upwards, together with the several Articles of round & grape shot mentioned in the annexed schedule be procured as soon as may be for the use of said Department, for which purpose the Governor of this Commonwealth is hereby empowered to issue his Orders to the Superintendent of purchases for said Commonwealth and to the Commissary General of the same for such of the above mentioned Articles as they now have on hand, respectively or such as they may be speedily able to procure, ¶ That the Governor be also requested, in case the said Superintendent & Commissary General shall be unable to furnish the abovesaid Articles to apply in behalf of this Commonwealth to the Continental Commissary of Issues and to the Continental Commissary of warlike stores, for such of the above enumerated Articles as they may respectively be able to procure — ¶ That on the said Articles or any part of them being procured as aforesaid the Governor by and with the advice of Council is hereby

empowered and requested to send the same to the said Counties, or either of them at such times and in such proportion as he with the advice of Council shall Judge necessary—

That on the arrival of any such supplies in said Counties or either of them They shall be under the direction of the Commanding Officer there, who is hereby required to secure them in some safe magazine, under a proper Guard— ¶ That the Commissary to be appointed for that Department be and he hereby is required to keep a constant supply of sixty Barrells of beef and Pork, and a like quantity of Flour in the Garrison at Falmouth as a necessary supply against a seige— ¶ That be appointed Agent in the County of Cumberland, and that be appointed Agent in the County of Lincoln who are hereby respectively empowered to sell to the Militia of their Respective Counties such of the Arms and accoutrements aforesaid as they may receive from the Commanding Officer for that purpose— ¶ That the price of each Arm with Accoutrements shall be the sum of the said Agents to be accountable for all arms they may receive as aforesaid, and for the Money for which they may sell any Arms as aforesaid which money shall be disposed of as the General Court may hereafter Order— ¶ That the said Commanding Officer be and he is hereby directed to deliver into the hands of such Agent or Agents so many of the said Arms from time to time as he shall think proper for the purpose aforesaid, taking duplicate receipts therefor, one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's Office

That the Governor be and he is hereby requested to issue the necessary Orders that one half of the Militia of the Counties of Essex York, Cumberland & Lincoln hold themselves in constant readiness during the Term of two Months to march at the shortest Notice to the aid of the said Counties or either of them whenever they shall be thereto required by

the Governor, or the said Commanding Officer; that the Other half of the said Militia then hold themselves in readiness as aforesaid during the Term of two Months and so in rotation as long as the Governor by and with the Advice of Council Shall Judge necessary — ¶ And whereas the State of New Hampshire by reason of its contiguity to the said Counties must at least be equally affected with this Commonwealth by the invasion or reduction of the same; it is therefore but reasonable that the said State should contribute her proportion of Men Money and Supplies toward the Common Defence of said Counties — therefore ¶ Resolved that the Governor be and he is hereby requested immediately to address Congress on the Subject, and to request in behalf of this Commonwealth that they will be pleased earnestedly to recommend it to the said State of New Hampshire to furnish a reasonable proportion of supplies as aforesaid according to their Abilities, and — ¶ That in the mean time commissioners be delegated immediately to repair to the said State of New Hampshire, and in behalf of this Commonwealth to request the Legislature of the same, immediately to join this Commonwealth in the Measures adopted or that may hereafter be adopted for the defence of the said eastern Counties —

Read and sent down Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives March 2 1781

Read & committed to the Committee on the letter from George Town to his Excellency the Govr dated Feby 23^{d} 1781

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate March 2^{d} 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Endorsed: 300 Men to be Inlisted ¶ Muster Master already appointed in those Counties to Muster such Soldiers

¶ Whereas by a Former Resolve the Continent[l] Troops were to be subject to the orders of General Lincoln within those Counties & Whereas Gen[l] Lincoln is at this Time out of the State then Resolved that said Troops shall be subject to the Order of the Governor who is hereby impowered to appoint such Officers as may be necessary to Command in addition to those already appointed by the General for that purpose —

Resolved that AB. be appointed paymaster & that the Governor appoint a Quarter Master for the Militia who shall serve as such for the Continental Troops till such an Officer be appointed. Also endorsed: Report of Com on Gen Lincoln's Letter 22[d] Feb[ry] Falm[o] Affairs

Resignation of John Avery.

Sir, ¶ Having had the Honor to be Commissiond a Lieutenant in Colonel John Allans Core Station'd at Machias the 4th of July 1777, by the Honble Council of the (then) State of Massachusetts Bay & Continued in that Service since that Time — & Being now Desirous of leaveing the Service in that Department, beg leave to Resign.

I have the Honor to be With the greatest respect your Excellency's most Hble Servt

Jas Avery

Boston March 1st 1781

In Council March 27th 1781

Advised — That the Resignation of Lieut James Avery be & hereby is accepted

Jn[o] Avery Sec[y]

His Excellency John Hancock Esq[r]

Resolve Relating to Prosecution and Settlement Trespassers on Public Lands.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 2d 1781

Whereas it has been Represented to the general Court that divers Trespasses have been committed on the unappropriated Lands belonging to this Commonwealth & that divers persons have illegally Entred upon & taken possession of various Tracts of said Land & still continue to hold Possession thereof contrary to Law & Justice And Whereas it is probable that further Trespasses may be committed & illegal Entries made unless proper Measures are taken to prevent the same Therefore

Resolved that Jedidiah Preble, Jonathan Greenleaf David Sewall John Lewis and William Lithgow Esqrs be & hereby are appointed a Committee to Examin into all such Trespasses & illegal Entries with full Power in Behalf of this Commonwealth to Commence any Action or Actions against any Person or persons who have or may hereafter commit any Trespass or Trespasses on the said Lands & also against any Person or persons who now hold or may hereafter hold Possession of any Tract or Tracts of said Lands contrary to Law & prosecute the same Action or Actions to final Judgement Execution & Receipt, Saving Nevertheless Where any such Trespasser shall be disposed to make due Recompence in the Judgement of said Committee, for any Damage done to the Commonwealth by him. In that Case the said Committee are hereby directed to accept the same & discharge the Trespasser so making Recompence for his Trespass. And also Where any illegal Possessor as aforesaid shall signify to the said Committee that he is desirous of purchasing the Land by him possessed as aforesaid & shall agree on Condition of Receiving a good Deed of Conveyance or Grant of

such Land to pay to said Committee for the Use of the Commonwealth such Sum or Sums of Money as they shall Judge the same to be reasonably worth & shall give proper Security for the performance of such Agreement the said Committee being of Opinion that it will be for the Interest of this Commonwealth to dispose of the same to such Person, are hereby directed to make Report thereof to the General Court for their Consideration & further Order thereon

And it is further Resolved that said Committee be & hereby are directed to Examine the Authenticity of Claims to the said unappropriated Lands or any part thereof which they may have Reason to think are not well founded & Report the State of such Claims to the General Court as soon as may be

And it is further Resolved that the said Committee be & hereby are directed to Run & Mark out or Cause to be Run & marked out such Dividing Lines between the Lands belonging to or Claimed by any Individual or Number of Individuals & the said Unappropriated Lands as they may Judge necessary for the purpose of preventing Trespassing & illegal Entries in Future

And it is further Resolved that the said Committee be & hereby are directed to Take or cause to be taken any Plan or Plans of said unappropriated Lands or any part thereof that shall be demed necessary for answering any of the purposes aforesaid And also to estimate & ascertain the Whole Number of Acres contained in said unappropriated Lands as near as may be with Convenience.

And it is further Resolved that the said Committee be & hereby are authorised for the purpose of Commencing & Prosecuting any of the Actions aforesaid to Substitute one or more Attorneys & the same Substitution to Revoke at pleasure & appoint others in their Stead as the Case or Cases may Require & allow & pay him or them for their several Services what the same may be reasonably worth

And it is further Resolved that said Committee be & hereby are directed to publish this Resolve or such parts thereof in the Boston & Worcester News Papers as they may think proper in Order that the Trespassers & Illegal Possessors aforesaid may have an Opportunity of availing themselves of this Lenity of Government to save the Expence which might otherwise be incurred by Law Suits.

And it is further Resolved that any Three of said Committee shall be sufficient to settle any Business to them committed in the Resolve and the said Committee are directed from Time to Time to make Return to the General Court of all their Proceedings with Accounts on Oath of their Time & Expence and also the Several Sums of Money and Securities for the payment of such Sums of Money which they may Receiv'd in Consequence of this Resolve

Report of Committee on Protection of Eastern Coast.

The Committee of both houses appointed to take into Consideration an Express from the County of Lincoln & have attended that service beg leave to Report the following Resolve & sit again

Jedediah Preble p^r Order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 2^d 1781

Whereas by recent Advices received by Express from the Eastward it appears that the Enemy with a Number of armed Vessels, are dayly committing the most horrid Depredations & Cruelties on the Inhabitants who Reside on or near the Sea Coasts in the County of Lincoln Therefore ¶ Resolved that the Governor be & hereby is Requested immediately to dispatch an Express to the Admiral or Commander of the French Fleet at Newport earnestly Requesting in Behalf of

this Commonwealth that the said Admiral or Commander will be pleased immediately to order that the French Ship of War now laying in the port of Boston & if possible one Frigate from the said Fleet at Newport be detached to Cruise for a few days on the Eastern Coast of this Commonwealth for the purpose of Capturing or destroying any Vessels that may be found infesting the same ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Governor be Requested immediately to order that the ship Mars be discharged of her Cargo & fitted for Sea with all possible Dispatch that she may be Ready to proceed on said Cruise in Conjunction with the said ships or either of them on the shortest Notice ¶ And it is further Resolved that as an Inducement to private armed Vessels to Cruise against the worthless Banditti who are continually ravaging said Coasts the following Bounty be granted by this Commonwealth to the Owners & Crew of every private armed Vessel which after the Tenth Day of March Ins^t shall Capture & Bring in to port or destroy any Vessel belonging to the Enemy which may be found infesting the Sea Coast of the Counties of York, Cumberland or Lincoln or cruising within Five Leagues thereof Viz. for each Cannon mounted on board of any such Vessel carrying Two Pound Shot the Sum of Fifty pounds in Silver & Gold or Bills of Credit Equivalent for each Cannon mounted aforesaid carrying Three Pound Shot the sum of Sixty pounds in Like Money for each Cannon mounted as aforesaid carrying Four Pound Shot the Sum of Seventy pounds in Like Money for each Eighty pounds in Like Money — for each Cannon mounted as aforesaid carrying a nine Pound Shot the sum of one hundred & Twenty pounds in money as afores^d and also for each man that shall be taken on board any such Vessel & belonging to the same & Delivered to the Commissary of Prisoners The Sum of Six pounds in money as afores^d

Read & Sent down Jer: Powell Presi^dt

In the House of Representatives March 2d 1781
Read & accepted
Sent up for concurrence
Caleb Davis Speaker
In Senate March 2d 1781
Read & Concurred
Jer: Powell Presidt
Approvd John Hancock

Resolves in re Protection Eastern Counties.

The Committee of both houses on the Several expresses from the Eastward and the Letters accompanying the same beg leave farther to report the following Resolves

Jedidiah Preble pr order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 3d 1781

Whereas from authentic intelligence received from various parts there is great reason to apprehend that a Plan is now forming, or already formed by our Enemy for the immediate Subjugation of the three eastern Counties in this Commonwealth; and Whereas no adequate provision has been yet made for preventing so capital an evil,— It is therefore

Resolv'd, that seven hundred men be raised and appropriated to the defence of the eastern parts of said Commonwealth the ensuing Campaign, for such time and on such Establishment as shall be hereafter ordered— That in the mean time the Governor be and he is hereby rquested to order a detachment from such parts of the Militia of said Commonwealth, as he with the advice of Council may deem necessary for the immediate defence of said Counties which detachments together with the Militia now serving in the County of Lincoln to be on such Establishment as the General Court shall hereafter order. That 200 barrells of

Pork and beef and a like quantity of Flour be procured as soon as may be for the use of such Troops as may be destined to serve in the eastern department.

That 500 Stand of arms with their accoutrements, 10000 Flints, 2000 pounds of Musket powder, 4000 pounds of Lead or musket ball of different Sizes, proper quantity of paper and thread fit for making Cartridges, 10 Pieces of Cannon from 18 pounders and upwards, together with the several Articles of round and grape shot mentioned in the annexed schedule, be also procured as soon as possible for the use of said Department; for which purpose the Governor is hereby requested to issue his Orders to the Superintendent of purchases of said Commonwealth and to the Commissary General of the same for such of the above enumerated Articles of provisions and warlike Stores as they may now respectively have on hand or such of them as they may be speedily able to procure in their several Departments

That the Governor be also, in case the said superintendent or Commissary General shall be unable to procure said Articles of provision and warlike Stores requested immediately to make application in behalf of said Commonwealth to the Continental Commissary of issues & to the Continental Commissary of Warlike Stores for such of the aforementioned Articles of provision and Warlike Stores as they may be able to furnish for the purpose aforesaid in their respective Departments —

And it is further Resolved that there be paid out of the Treasury of s^{d} Common^{w} to the said Commissary General, a Sum not exceeding of the new emission, part of the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ordered to be borrowed from Continental Loan Office by a Resolve of the 2^{d} instant. to be applied to the sole purpose of enabling the said Commissary to comply with the Governor's Requisitions as aforesaid.

That as soon as the said Articles of provision and Warlike Stores or any part thereof can be procured, the Governor by and with the advice of Council is hereby requested to adopt the most speedy & effectual Measures for causing the said Articles to be conveyed to the said Counties in such proportion as he with the advice of Council may judge expedient; the same to be under the direction of the Commanding Officer in s[d] Department, and by him secured in some safe Magazine or Magazines under a sufficient guard —

That the Governor be requested to appoint a Commissary Q[r] Master & Surgeon & Secry to serve said Department which Comm[y] is hereby authorized and empowered to appoint sufficient Deputy Commissaries under him not exceeding the Number of who are to be accountable to the said Commissary —

That the said Commissary be and he is hereby requested to keep a Constant supply of Sixty Barrells of Beef and pork and a like quantity of Flour in the Garrison at Falmouth against a Seige —

And it is further Resolved that the Governor be and he is hereby requested immediately to issue his Orders to the Militia of the several Counties of Essex, York, Cumberland and Lincoln that one half of the said Militia hold themselves in constant readiness during the Term of Two Months to March at the Shortest Notice from the Governor or Commanding Officer of said Department to the aid of said Counties of York, Cumberland and Lincoln or either of them and that the Other half of said Militia then hold themselves in Readiness for a like Term and for the purpose aforesaid, and so in rotation as long as the Governor by & with the advice of Council shall Judge necessary.

And Whereas the State of New Hampshire by reason of its contiguity to the said eastern Counties must at least be equally affected with this Commonwealth by the Invasion or

Reduction of the same; it is therefore but Reasonable that the said State should contribute her proportion of Men Money and supplies toward the Common defence of said Counties.

Therefore Resolved that the Governor be and hereby is requested immediately to address Congress on the Subject, and to request in behalf of this Commonwealth that they earnestly Recommend it to the said State of New Hampshire to furnish a reasonable proportion of Supplies as aforesaid. That in the mean time commissioners be delegated immediately to repair to the said State of New Hampshire, and in behalf of this Commonwealth to request the Legislature of said State immediately to join said Commonwealth in the measures adopted or that may hereafter be adopted for the defence of said eastern Counties —

Read & Sent down

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives March 4th 1781

Read & accepted as taken into a new draught

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate March 6th 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered, that Josiah Stone & Samuel Niles Esq^{rs} with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to take this Report, together with the Resolve passed the 9th of Feb^{ry} last relative to the Eastern Department into Consideration — and make Report thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives March 6th 1781

Read & concurred & Col^{o} Little Mr Mills & Maj^{r} Lithgow are joined

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate March 6th 1781 —

Read & Concurred wth the House as taken into a new draft wth an amendment at A to B in page 3

sent down for Concurrence

Jer. Powell Presidt

viz dele, from A to B excepting "fifty barrels of Beef"

In the House of Representatives March 6th 1781

Read & concurred Caleb Davis Speaker

In the House of Representatives March 10: 1781

Reconcurred Caleb Davis Speaker

Resolve on Petition of Inhabitants Thomastown.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 6 1781

On The Petition of the Inhabitants of Thomastown in the County of Lincoln Seting forth their difficulties by reason of A Number of Cruizers on their Coast, & Other Circumstances they are Under. Therefore pray for a Temporary Release of the Beef Tax Set upon that Town.—

Resolved that the Inhabitants of Thomastown be informed, by having a Copy of this resolve sent to them, that this Court are taking proper measures for the defense of all the Eastern Sea Coasts, that there will be Soldiers in such places in that part of the Country as Shall be tho't proper & that such part of their Beef as they can furnish will be expended in the ensuing Campaign for their Own defence and the Secretary is humbly desired to furnish sd Inhabitants of Thomastown with an attested Copy of this Resolve

Sent up for concurrence Caleb Davis Spkr

In Senate March 7th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Exchange of Genl Wadsworth.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives 6th March 1781

On a Letter received from Brig^r Genl Wadsworth, dated Bigwaduce Fort George 20 Feby 1781 requesting that he now a prisoner of war, may be exchanged as soon as possible; Resolved, that the Governor be & he hereby is desired to take measures for effecting the Exchange of so worthy an Officer as soon as may be.

On a Letter received from Col^o Wheaton, dated Head Quarters Thomaston 23 Feby 1781, informing of the Capture of Brig^r Genl Wadsworth; & of the critical, dangerous Situation of that part of the Country;

Resolved, that the Governor be, & he hereby is requested to inform s^d Col^n that measures are now adopting for the immediate Defence of the eastern parts of this Commonwealth; & that in the mean time Col^n Wheaton be directed to take the most effectual measures for the Security of the provision & Stores at Thomaston.

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^r

In Senate March 7th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

[The letter of Col. Wheaton's referred to will be found under date of Feb. 23].

Letter Relating to Defence of Eastern Country.

Newport, 6th March 1781

My dear Sir:

His Excellency General Washington arrived here this Forenoon. I have had an opportunity of conversing with

him with Respect to our Eastern Country and the propriety of retaining the Troops raised in the three lower Counties, for the Defence of them. He says the Measure can by no Means be assented to, as Congress have ordered all the Troops South of Jersey to join the Southern Army — So that the Main Army must be composed of the New England, New York, and Jersey-Lines — which forbids his assenting to any Detachments. I wish the Assembly had known this before they were adjourned — for the Security of the Eastern Country is certainly an Object which should claim our Attention.— I know the Court thought it so, and had they not believed that those Troops might be retained, they would probably have made other provision, I hope Congress has been addressed on the Subject, for it is peculiarly hard for our State to guard its extensive Sea Coast, part of which is now in the possession of the Enemy, without the Aid of the Continent.— I have written to our Members in Congress on this Matter, supposing that the State would address Congress and request their Assistance. Can not men be sent Easterly before the Court meet again? ¶ I wish I had a little News to send you — I have none which I dare warrant as authentic. Gen[l] Washington was received here with every Mark of Respect & Joy. ¶ The Militia are coming in, and will most of them be stationed near the North End of the Island. ¶ I have the Honor to be, Dear Sir, with the highest respect and Esteem, Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant [not signed]

His Excellency Governor Hancock Esq.

Resolve in re Fitting Out Ships For Defence.

The Committee of both Houses on the Letter from the Commander of the French fleet at Rhode Island with his Excellencies Message accompanying the same, with respect

to sending the Ship Mars in cooperation with one of his most Christian Majesties Frigates, on an expedition to the eastern parts of this Commonwealth — have attended that business and beg leave to report by way of Resolve —

Jedidiah Preble pr order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 7th 1781

Resolved that His Excellency the Governor with the advice of Councill be requested [A] to take the ship Mars under their immediate care, and appoint some suitable person or persons to see that the said Ship be fixt [B] in as expedtious a manner as possible also to appoint any officer or Officers for sd Ship in case the Officers now belonging to said Ship Should decline that service — ¶ And it is further resolved that the officers & Seamen who shall engage on board sd Ship during sd Service shall be on the same establishment as the Officers & Seamen who have heretofore engaged on board the [C] Ships in the Service of this Commonwealth with the addition of [A] seven Dollars of the Bills of Credit of the New Emission as a bounty to each Seaman who shall voluntarily enter board sd Ship for sd Service. ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Governor with the advice of Council be authorized to impower the commander of sd Ship (in case he cannot man his Ship in season on the aforesaid encouragement) to impress a sufficient number of men to go on board sd Ship on sd expedition [D] not exceeding six weeks from the time of sd Ships sailing — ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Commissary General be and he is hereby directed to furnish such provisions & Warlike Stores as the Governor with the advice of Councill may judge necessary for sd Ship during sd expedition

Read & sent down

Jer: Powell Presidt

And it is further Resolved that the Agent lately appointed to fit out an armed Vessel as a Tender to the Ship Tartar be

directed to fit out s^d^ Vessel forthwith as a Tender to the French Frigate on the above mentioned Expedition —
In the House of Representatives March 7th 1781 —

Read & accepted with the following amendments at A B C & D

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^r^

viz. Dele from A to B & insert to order the Agent for the naval department of this Commonwealth to fix the said Ship for Sea" At C insert "armed" at D insert "to serve"
In Senate March 9th 1781

Read & Concurred as taken into a new draught

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer. Powell Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives March 9, 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Spk^r^

Approv^d^ John Hancock

Resolve in re Impressing Men For Service.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate March 8th 1781

Whereas it is expedient that the ship Mars Should be immediately fitted for the Sea, to act in cooperation with one of his Most Christian Majesties Frigates on an Expedition to the Eastern parts of this Common Welth Therefore Resolved, that the officers & seamen who shall engage on Board s^d^ Ship during her Cruise Shall be on the same establishment as the officers & Seamen who have heretofore engaged on bord the Ships in the Service of this Common Welth with the addition of Seven Dollars of the Bills of Credit of the New Emission, as Bounty to each Seaman who shall voluntarily

enter on board s^d Ship for s^d Service ¶ & it is further Resolved that the Governor with advice of Councill, be authorised to impower the Commander of s^d Ship in Case he Cannot Man his Ship, in Season on the aforesaid incouragement, to impress a sufficient number of Seamen, to go on Board s^d Ship to serve on s^d expedition not exceeding Six Weeks from the Time of s^d Ships sailing

Address of Governor Relative to Deficiency of Supplies.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives —

It is my Wish at all times to carry into Execution the Resolves of the General Court with such dispatch as shall Effect the purposes Design'd and in Consequence of your Resolve of Feby 9th was using every possible Means to furnish & forward the supplies Ordered for the Eastern Department, many of which are now ready, but notwithstanding every Exertion, there will be a Deficiency even in the Execution of that part of the Supplies. ¶ The Resolves of the General Court of March 6th Include a Requisition for a Supply of Articles for the same Department more Extensive than the former whch if design'd as an Addition to the first, & to be Immediately furnish'd, will Certainly fail in the Execution. Not three hundred fire Arms are in the public Stores of this Commonwealth, I have sent to the Commissary of Military Stores to know what of the Articles Ordered, he can supply, he returns me for Answer he can only afford the Supply of Powder, — The Means propos'd by the Resolve are not Adequate to the purchases of the Deficient Articles, I cannot therefore sign the Resolve without the further Interposition of the General Court, lest I should be made Accountable and Censurable, when wholly out of my power to carry the Re-

solves into Execution, altho' much Dispos'd to Exert myself for the Welfare & safety of every part of the Commonwealth — I must request the General Court to give some Explanation of their Intentions as to the Immediate Supply of the Several Articles for the Eastern Department, and if the whole of the Warlike Stores Cannon &c: mentioned in two Resolves of Feby 9th & March 6th are to be procur'd, that further Means may be provided for the Obtaining them — The several Resolves respecting the Militia I will Endeavor to carry into Execution, but I must beg Leave to request the Attention of the General Court to that which respects the Continental Troops in the three Eastern Counties, & the Impropriety of my Interfering in Officering or Arranging those Troops — If the whole supply of provisions is to be made I shall be Obliged to send to Mr Baker for one hundred Barrels of the Pork, under this care, & appropriated for another purpose, the Disappointment to the Army & the Charge of Land & Water Transportation, I submit to the General Court

Council Chamber March 9th 1781

John Hancock

Order Appointing Committee on Resolutions.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives March 10, 1781

Ordered that Mr Hall Mr Wells & Major Lithgow with such as the Hon Senate shall appoint be a Committee to take into Consideration a Draught of sundry Resolutions relative to the Eastern Counties & his Excellency's Message in consequence thereof & to report thereon

sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

Resolve Relating to Militia of Frenchman's Bay.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

In the House of Representatives March 10 – 1781

On a Letter to the Honble Speaker of this House from Mr. John Springer of a Settlement in the eastern part of this Commonwealth called Frenchman's Bay, representing their situation & dangerous Circumstances on account of the Enemy, & praying for some Direction & Relief in order to enable them still to preserve that part of the Country from the Enemy.

*Resolved, that such of the Militia of the Settlement called Frenchman's Bay, as shall hold themselves in readiness to march at a minute's warning well armed & equipped to repel invading parties of the Enemy, & shall be inrolled for that purpose under the direction of Col^{n} John Allan of Machias, shall be intitled to receive ten Shillings silver money p^{r} month, or an equivalent in Bills of Credit according to the current Exchange, as a Consideration & Inducement for holding themselves thus in readiness. A until the further order of the Genl Court — And it is further Resolved that Col. John Allen is directed to make a Return to this Court as soon as possible of the number of Militia in Frenchman's Bay armed & equipped as aforesaid B Said Militia to find their own provisions. Such part of s^{d} Militia to be imbodied under suitable Commanders from time to time as Occasion may require, & as shall be directed by s^{d} Col^{n} John Allan, whose Orders shall be produced as Vouchers for the actual Service of s^{d} Militia. That part of s^{d} Militia who shall be imbodied, shall be in full pay & shall be intitled to receive forty shillings p^{r} month as above, while on actual Service; & shall be relieved or discharged in whole or in part from time to time as Occasion may require & as shall be directed by the above s^{d} Col^{n} Allan. And the s^{d} Col^{n} Allan is hereby Ordered &

impowered to take the direction of the Militia at Frenchman's Bay as above & to appoint suitable Commanders from time to time, & to furnish s[d] Militia with necessary Ammunition.

sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate March 10th 1781

Read & Nonconcurred Jer: Powell Presi[dt]

Resolve Impowering the Governor.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Bay

In the House of Representatives March 10th 1781

Whereas in the present critical situation of the three eastern Counties of this Commonwealth it is necessary that extraordinary powers should be vested in the Governor and Council in the recess of the General Court Therefore Resolved That the Governor be and he is hereby impowered & requested by and with the advice of Council to adopt such Measures during the recess of the General Court as he may deem necessary for the defence of the eastern parts of this Commonwealth A taking into Consideration the Resolution of the Gen[l] Court for retaining the Troops raised in those countys for the Continental Army B; for which purpose it is further Resolved that the Governor be and he is hereby impowered with the advice of Council to draw out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth a Sum not exceeding six Thousand Dollars of the New Emission part of the Sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars ordered to be borrowed by a Resolve of the second Instant. and that the Gov[r] be Requested to give order that the Acco[t] of the Expenditure of the Money he may draw out of The Treasurer in Consequence of this Resolution C.

sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Sp[r]

In Senate March 10th 1781

Read & Concurred with the Amendments at A to C:—
sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presid

viz. at A dele from A to B. at C Insert, be laid before the General Court for Examination

In the House of Representatives March 10. 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Advice of the Council to the Governor.

Commonwealth of Masstts

In Council March 17th 1781

The Council having taken the Resolve of the General Court of the 9th of Feby last for the Defence of the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth under Consideration As also the Powers vested in the Governor and Council for this purpose —¶ Advice — That his Excellency order a Detachment from the Militia of the Counties of Cumberland and Lincoln of one hundred & fifty Men; one hundred of which to be stationed at Falmouth for the defence thereof, to be paid for their Service as the General Court shall hereafter order and to do Duty for three Months, if not sooner discharged — That a Sergeants Guard be established at the Mouth of the Kennebeck River — That a Sergeants Guard be placed at Towns End in the County of Lincoln — That a Sergeants Guard be placed at French Mans Bay — That half the Number of Arms and the whole of the Ammunition mentioned in the said Resolve of the 9th of Feby last should be sent down to Falmouth for the use of the Men ordered to do duty there — That a Subalterns Guard be placed at St Georges — That

Provisions for Subsistance of the Troops stationed at Falmouth be sent there in such quantities as his Excellency shall think proper — And that his Excellency be requested to comply with the Resolution of Congress passed the 15 of Feby 1781 to compleat the Company of Artillery at the Post of Machias to a Number of Sixty five Men including officers for the further Security and Defence thereof to be under the Command of Col^o John Allen.

Attest John Avery Sec^y

J. Allan to the Governor.

Machias March 17th 1781

Sir

My Last which I had The Hono^r of Writing your Excellency was of The 26 Jany I then Acquainted you of the Situation of The Department to that Day — and of my Intention of Going to Frenchmans Bay in Consiquence of The Inteligence I had Received from That Place — It was the 8th of February before I coud get ready when I sett of in Company with Col^o Foster Also Col^o Campbell on Our Way — On Our Arrival There found Much Disturbance, respecting some Persons being at Bagaduce, I accordingly in a Military Capacity Siezed two Men, and had an Examination in presence of The Committee who are all Men of Virtue & Zealous for their Countrys Good The deplorable situation of the Inhabitants, and the fear of Agravating The Enemy, Made it precarious how to Act for the Safety of The people, I consulted with The Committee and finialy on their Application to be Responsable for the Prisoners future good Conduct, Delivered Them up to The Town, who took necessary steps for Securing Them — This was the Only Step I could Do, even at The Best. Tho not known to Others, as the

Indigent State of This Post rendered it Imposible for me to secure such people ¶ There was a Meeting of The whole Town but four or five Absent. Those present Voted Unanimously to do their Utmost to Oppose the Enemy if they Came there. I promised Them every Assistance in my power depending That I shoud soon be able By Assistance from the Westward Matters appeared Settled & Agreeable for the present, I returned to Machias — But on the 24th the British Ship The Allegence of 18 Guns from Baggauduce Arrived There, Landed a party of Men, about Two in the Morning, at a Village called New Bristol & with The Most Wanton & cruel Agravations, Burnt Mr Beans & Captn Sulivans Houses. Takeing the Latter Prisoner — The former was the house I put up at — The Man & Women in an Advanced Age of Life The Latter Infirm, Both of them often Threaten'd to be Laid in the Pile — not Permited to have Sufficient Cloths to secure them from the Inclemency of The Weather — Thus a Famely in The Most Affluent circumstances in a New Country Rendered Miserable by Those Bloody Wretches — I shall not Trouble Your Excellency with more perticulars of this — Your Own Principles of Humanity will point out their Calamitious Setuation — ¶ The 27th I Received the Express, it Seem'd to strike a panic thro the Country, nor was it in my power to give any Assistance, any further than by promises to Encourage them to perseverence — Several proposed Makeing Retaliation on the Torys — which I discountinenced for The Present, Only to stand upon The defencive — The Ship Committed several other Depredations plundred several People & Threatned Ruin to every One, who Any way Opposed their Taking of Lumber — ¶ Lieu^t Col^o Campbell Musterd what Militia he could Raise — But the Scarcity of every Necessary rendred it Imposible to Continue any Time, at Present all still But Expect every Hour to Hear British Vessells Takeing Lumber — ¶ About Three

weeks Ago a Sloop Arm'd, Arrived at Gouldsborough with Falmouth papers on Board, and aforged Passport from The Commanding Officer for Boards She was Loaded & the Money paid, Has since, I understand, been Taken by An American Privateer — ¶ There is much Confusion now in the Country in Respect of Nutrality some Late Advices Brot from Boston That it woud be Comply'd with if Requested, Has sett some Districts much upon The wavering Hand — I did not put much Dependence for some time, but Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Campbell Informs me: that by the Influence & persuasion of some, most of the people will fall in with it not Knowing the Nature and Meaning of Such a State — Nor Conceiving the Consequence shoud it be permited) I presume some thing will be Mention'd at the Head of Government Respecting this where I doupt not Suitable Steps will be taken as best for the Public Utility — ¶ It Appears Certain That the Self Interested & Torys thro the Country are Detirmind to Grasp at every Straw reather then Give up the Conection with The Britons, if they fail endeavour to Bring Others into Disgrace with Themselves — or be supposed to be Friendly. — Last week A Brittish Ten Gun Schooner came to Managuagus & took a Schooner which Col^{o} Jones & Some Others came from Boston in, And Carryed her to Bagauduce, where I understand He and Some Others have since Gone to Endeavour to Get her Back — It is Surprizing that this Vessell shoud be taken Only, when there was Another belonging to Captn Walice of the Militia — who has — upon all Occations been Active & forward in Defending the Country & a Man of Property — The Other a Pirmitt from Mowet — This is the way they have Managed for Sometime and Under a Cloak of Being Distressed, has Kept the Country in Confusion & Trouble to cary on their own Intrigues — ¶ Since my last to Your Excellency several Indian Famelys have

Arrived at Passamaquody from St Johns — On my Return from Frenchmans bay, Despatched of The Priest & Lieut Delesdernier to Celebrate Lent who Returnd in Eight days — They found every thing Agreeable & friendly only the want of Provisions — I have furnished them with Considerable Ammunition — They Rely upon Something which Keeps up their Sperits — And Your Excellency may rest assured by the Last of April a very Considerable Body will be Ready for Any Matter they may be Commanded to do — ¶ Your Excellency woud see by my Last the State of the whole Department, as I have Received no Assistance since, It may be easily Conjectured, what our present Setuation is But it may be Depended upon, that every Exertion in my power shall be Used to secure The Country & the Interests of the Indians — ¶ I have the Honor to be with the Most Profound Respect —

Your Excellencys Most Obedient Humb^l Servant —

J. Allan

His Excellency John Hancock Esq

Memorial of George Stillman.

To his Excellency John Hancock Esq. Governor, & the Honble Councill of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

Boston April 6th 1781

The Memorial of George Stillman Humbly Sheweth that By Resolve of the Honble General Court of the fifteenth of November last the Board of War were ordered to Furnish Captn Smith Commissary at Machias with Sundry Provisions for the purpose of Replacing those Borrowed By him and Col^o Allan agreeable to the Returns herewith presented the publick Stores being then so nearly exausted as not to inable them to Furnish but two Barrils of Pork and two Barrills of

Beef the Remainder is still due, & your Memorialist having lent Large Quantities of it to the publick by which he Now Suffers for want of it to supply the Indians as he has an appointment solely for that purpose your petitioner humbly pray your excellency & Honors in your Wisdom to Direct that the said provisions may be replaced and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray George Stillman

Petition of Isaac Washburn.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts } To the Honble Senate and House Representatives.

The Petition of Isaac Washburn humbly Sheweth Your pertitioner would beg leave to Represent to your Hon^{r} that after the Capture Brig^{r} Genl Wadsworth, your Petitioner took Command of Gard. of Twenty Men Statined at Cambden and St Georges dureing their Service of Thirty Days, and your Petitiner thirty three Days, which time each & every of s^{d} Gard found their own Provision, wherefore your Petitioner prays that, said Company may have thier Rations allowed them, and your Petitioner, Reimbursed what money he advanced in Collecting said provision, and your pertitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c. &c

Isaac Washburn

Thomaston April 7 1781

Sir:

As I have been Obliged to Leave thomaston great part of this winter I thought proper to Appoint Capt Washburn to Keep up a Small guard in this place as there was a necessity that a guard Should be keep up after the Troops Left this Place I should take it as a faver if you would give him Some Assistance in Regard to his wagies for the Same I am Sir your Hum^{bl} Ser^{t} Major Wheaton

[to] Col^{o} Dawes

Letter of Chairman Committee of Correspondence.

Pleasant River April the 9th 1781

Gentlemen

We Receiv'd your Friendly Letter of the 30th of March Last, with a Copy of Mr Shaws Letter, and a Copy of Representation to the Governor &c &c.—

And we have vewed the Resolves of your March meeting and do look on it, that you acted Like Spirited, good, & Loyal, Honourable Subjects, to the States of America &c. Also we have Perused Francis Shaws Esqr Letter and Look upon it as unorthodox selfish, but mistaken Policy.—

Likewise we hav considered of the said Representation, and we do Look upon it with Disdain, & that it is an Atrocious Audacious Falce Piece—And we do heartily joine with you in Rejecting the said Letter & Representation & do scorn and Dispise a Neutrality, & it is with Pleasure that we can Informe you (thats to our knowledge) that not one Person here has coveted to be Neutors at Present Neither do we Desire to be so Sneeking as Leave our Friends at the Westerd to Beat the Bush & we to cathch the Hare. But we will Joine with you, heart & hand to defend the Rights & Liberties of America and its Independences to the Last. And we do Returne you hearty Thanks for your kind Letter & your opinion on the subject matter: & do wish Prosperity to American arms, & a speedy, honurable and happy, Peace—And we do wish you Evry Blessing By order of the Committee of Correspondence &c

Daniel Merit chairman

P S Before the sealing of this, yours of the 9th Instant came to hand with a Packet To Colo^ll Campbell which we sent off by my son Direct

Daniel Merit

Petition of Nicholas Crosby.

His Excellency Jn° Hancock Esqr

To his Excellency the Governor & the Honourable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of Nicholas Crosby Humbly Sheweth That before the enemy took possession of Penobscot he was an inhabitant there; owning a farm Considerably brought to & well Stoked: but upon that events taking place rather than Submit to the British government & from a firm attachment to the Cause of his Country he left all his interest there & Came to Salem: by which means his Circumstances are much straitened; he therefore Prays your Excellency & Honours would grant him a Permit to go to Penobscot to take some Care of his interest there & to bring off Such of his effects as he can in a row boat — which he perposes to go up that river in — ¶ your Petitioner also prays he may have permission at the Same time to Carry sum Necessaries to his fathers family there which they Stand in great Need of and your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

Nicholas Crosby

Salem April ye 9 — 1781

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council April 12th 1781

Adviced that the Prayer of the Petitioner be so far granted That Nicholas Crosby be and hereby is permitted to go up Penobscot River for the purpose of taking Care of his Interest and to bring off such of his Effects as he can obtain and to return into this Commonwealth with the same in a Small Boat which the said Crosby hath procured for the purpose —

Attest John Avery Sec^y

Committee Town Machias to Governor.

May it please your Excellency Duplicate.—

We have by order of the town forwarded to your Excellency the papers relative to the Conduct of Francis Shaw & Nathan Jones of Gouldsborough & Capt William Nickells (Naval Officer) of Narroguagus; how far they have corrupted the minds of the good people of these remote & distressed plantations, we cannot say, but beleve, very few except their dependents, will join in a request of such a Malignant nature. The above Gen^{ts} seem to have free Ingress, Egress & Regress to Major Bagwaduce which we apprehend to be of dangerous consequence both to the peace and safety of these detatched plantations; the Enemy, at least, learn our poverty & weakness, and we gain no intelligence but what suits the base purposes of these men; of course their baleful influence & misrepresentations powerfully tend to intimidate and disarm the Inhabitants & embolden our Enemies; and Doubtless they have advised the removal of our leading men, as the only effectual measure in the declining power of these Minions of despotism, to reduce us under the power of Britain, the grand prerequisite to the full accomplishment of their lucrative and ambitious purposes. Such a measure we are well informed is resolved on, and has in part already taken place. We therefore humbly pray that every assistance & support in the power of Government, may be speedily Granted us.

By order of the Committee

Machias April 11th 1781 Stephen Smith Chairman

Petition of Josiah Crockett.

To the Honourable the Senate and house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Humbly Sheweth

Josiah Crockett of Deer Island in the County of Lincoln that on the failure of the expedition to Penobscott in the

year 1779, the inhabitants of Deer Island, especially those who had taken up arms with their brethren of this Commonwealth (among whom was your petitioner) were compelled by the British Commander at Majorbigwaduce to take the oath of Allegiance to the King of Great Britain, as the condition upon which alone they might peaceably enjoy their estates, with the assurance however that they should not be called upon to bear arms against those under the banners of America. That on the eighteenth day of April A D 1780 General Wadsworth Commander of the American forces in the County of Lincoln, by his proclamation of that date, in tenderness and justice to the inhabitants of said Deer Island and other places adjacent to Majorbigwaduce, (whose critical and uncomfortable situation was not owing to their want of affection to, or zeal for, the Government of Massachusetts, but to a contingency of events needless to be mentioned) did order and direct the inhabitants aforesaid to consider themselves as neutrals in regard of aiding or assisting either party; allowing them an intercourse with the subjects of this Commonwealth, and declaring that they should always have proper passes for their return home from the Commander at the American post: That on the 7th day of October 1779, the house of Representatives requested the Honble Council to direct the Commanding Officer of the County of Lincoln not to suffer small scouting parties to molest or disturb the inhabitants of Penobscott; By all which the spirits of the people have been supported under their sufferings, reflecting, that although a wise Providence has seen fit to exercise their patience by an ostensible submission to his Britannic Majesty, (which can only be considered as temporary, and during the present constraint they are under), yet the inhabitants of Deer Island could never doubt your Honours confidence in their hearty affection and zeal for the cause and interest of the United States as having never by any voluntary act for-

feited the protection of the laws and Government of this Commonwealth, Yet in addition to their distress as though it were not already sufficient, in total disregard of the feelings of humanity, prompted by avarice and a desire of plunder a certain Nathaniel Thomson of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland in a boat with fifteen men from said Falmouth on the sixth day of March last past landed at said Deer Island abused robbed and plundered some of the inhabitants thereof. They entered the house of your petitioner, struck and abused his wife there being, broke in the window where a child was laying then dangerously sick and thereby greatly hazarded its life;—They took and carried away from your petitioners store rum tobacco &c and meeting your petitioner as they left his house as he returned from his neighbours they insulted and abused him; took from him eleven gallons of molasses he then had with him, and forced him on board their boat, where they detained him a considerable time. They also entered the house of Mr Richard Crockett your petitioners father, being above 75 years of age, and with a loaded gun placed at his breast threatened to take away his life, they otherwise insulted him, and beat and wounded him so that he was unable to follow his business for the space of fourteen days. More insults and outrages were offered to others his neighbours by said Thompson and his men which 'tis probable will be laid before your Honours. Your Petitioner as soon as conveniently he could repaired to Falmouth, to obtain satisfaction of the Capt and crew of the boat aforesaid; but received only abuse and insult, yea two of the crew and they the most guilty swore that if he prosecuted them they would burn and destroy all the interest and estate he had on Deer Island. Your petitioner therefore, reposing the highest confidence in the wisdom, justice, liberality and goodness of this Commonwealth, looks up to your Honours as the avengers of injuries done to the subjects thereof, and

begs his case may be taken into your wise consideration, and such order taken thereon as may be for the security of the subject from such injuries in future, and that the perpetrators of the injuries and inormities set forth in this petition may be punished. And as your petitioner is employed by many of his neighbours on Deer Island to purchase corn for their necessary support, he prays a permit may be granted him to transport the same without danger of being taken by the Privateers, or robbed and plundered by parties of men from boats or hindered and delayed unecessarily in ports & harbours as has heretofore been his case, And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Josiah Crockett

Falmouth 11th of April 1781

In Senate April 19th 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Increase Sumner and Jonathan Greenleaf Esqrs with such as the Honorable House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into Consideration and make report what may be proper to be done thereon.

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives April 23d 1781

Read & concurred & Gen. Titcomb Colo Coffin & Mr Leggate are joined

Caleb Davis

Petition of Andrew Reed.

To the Honble the Senate & the Honble the house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled

The Petition of Andrew Reed of Boothbay Humbly Sheweth That when the expedition against the enemies of America at Penobscut, was undertaken under the Command

of the Hon. Brigadier General Lovell in the year 1779; your Petitioner readily engaged in the service with his person, his sons, and all the property he had that was capable of any employment in it.

That General Lovell did on the 22d of July take into the transport Service the Sloop Townsend the property of your Petitioner, & held her in the business of an hospital-ship until he retreated from the place, at which time your Petitioner was commanded to quit her, & she with the rest of the fleet was lost.

That this loss was ruinous in its consequences to your Petitioner as it was the chief part of his estate from which he could derive any present advantage; & when deprived of it he found himself cut off from the usual & indeed from the only means he knew of providing for the Subsistence of a numerous & helpless family & himself & his sons turned out of business — the only business by which they earned their bread.

That under this disadvantage he was forced to submit to another arising out of the same source: — his uniform exertions of his utmost abilities from first to last in the cause of his Country had made him obnoxious to its enemies; in so much that he was noted by them as the butt of peculiar vengeance; to escape their hands he was obliged to abandon his settlement on the coast & retire with his family into the wilderness, in circumstances peculiarly distressing.

That it was no small addition to his distresses that the said Sloop had never been paid for; your Petitioner had indeed repeatedly tendred the payment to the former owner, at the time when it came due, which was in the fall of the year 1777, three months after the purchase had been made; but that Gentleman respecting the public credit, ever refused to receive payment, until the late act of the legislature for better establishing the currency, And now under the shelter of that

act he has sued your Petitioner for the debt in hard money, & the case is depending before the Inferior Court at Pownalboro' next June: & if execution issues at that time against your Petitioner, agreeable to the demand of the Plaintiff, your Petitioner & his family must be involved in infallible ruin.

That your Petitioner has repeatedly made humble representations of his Case to the General Court in hopes of receiving some satisfaction for his loss in the Sloop aforesaid; but without success; — the extremity of his distress alone constrains him to address the legislature once more on that Subject:

Your Petitioner therefore earnestly entreats Your Honors to take his case into consideration, & to order him some just compensation for the loss he has sustained, or grant him such other relief as to your Honors in your wisdom & Justice shall appear to be righteous & meet: & your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

And^{w} Reed

Boothbay 12th of April 1781

Affidavit of Nathaniel Thomas.

Cumberland Ss.

I Nathaniel Thomas of Deer Island in the County of Lincoln House Carpenter of Lawfull Age Do Testify and Declare That I was at the House of Richard Crocket of Said Deer Island Joiner on the Sixth Day of March last past. And about Sunrise of Said Sixth of March there Enterd the house of the said Richard Three Armed Men Viz Beniah Low, Kemp and Daniel Marston who were part of a Boat Crew Commanded by Nathaniel Thompson of Falmouth in the County Cumberland Mr Crocket Attempting to go out of his Door — said Kemp Low and Tobey Struck him several

Violent Blows with the Butts of thier Guns and one of them Viz Marston presented the Muzzle of his Gun (the Gun being Cocked) at the said Crocket — the others Continuing to beat and Wound the said Crocket Tearing his Clothes and Abusing his person. Rumageing his House and taking from thince a Gun and Bullet Bag which thay Carried away with them When Mr Crocket Cried Murder and for help — they said "Dam him Kill him" and Dam you — speaking to the said Crocket "We mean to Kill You" — in Consiquence of all which Abuse and Ill Usage the said Crocket was Confined to his house For above a Fortnight — The said Richard Crocket is above Seventy Three Years of Age

Nathan Thomas

Cumberland Ss Falmouth April 13th 1781

The above-named Nathaniel Thomas, made Solemn Oath to the Truth of the above Deposition by him Sign'd — taken in perpetuam rei memoriam

Coram Enoch Freeman Sam Freeman }
Justices of the Peace quorum unus

Petition of Mary Campbell.

To his Excellency the Governor; the Honourable the Senate, and house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The petition of Mary Campbell wife of John Campbell of Deer Island, in the County of Lincoln, in behalf of said John and herself, humbly sheweth. That on the eighteenth day of April A D 1780. General Wadsworth Commander of the American troops in the County of Lincoln by his proclamation of that date, in tenderness to the feelings of the inhabitants of said Deer Island and other places in the vicinity of Majorbigwaduce; (whose critical and uncomfort-

able situation was not owing to want of affection to, or zeal for, the Government of Massachusetts but must altogether be imputed to the contingency of unhappy events needless to be enumerated) did order and direct the inhabitants aforesaid to hold themselves as neutrals in regard of aiding or assisting either party, allowing them an intercourse with the other subjects of this Commonwealth, and declaring that they should always have proper passes for their return home, from the Commander at the American post. That on the seventh day of October 1779 the house of Representatives requested the Honourable Council to direct the Commander of the (then) State troops not to suffer any scouting parties to molest or disturb the inhabitants round about Penobscott. By all which the Spirits of the people there have been greatly supported under the heaviest trials, reflecting that altho a wise Providence has seen fit to exercise their patience by an ostensible submission to his Brittanic Majesty (which can only be considered as temporary and during the present force they are under) yet the inhabitants of Deer Island could never doubt your Honours confidence in their hearty affection and zeal for the cause and interest of the United States, having never forfeited by any voluntary act, the protection of the laws and Government of this Commonwealth. Yet nevertheless, in addition to their distress as though it were not already sufficient — in total disregard of the feelings of humanity — from a motive of avarice which grasps at everything justifiable or even colorable by law. Nathaniel Thompson of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Commander of a whale boat called the Roebuck with fifteen men armed did, on the fifth day of March last past without colour of any commission for so doing break the house of the said John Campbell of said Deer Island, and one holding a pistol at his breast threatning him with instant death if he moved some of the others robbed him of his watch and fifteen hard

dollars, and took and carried away a trunk containing the most valuable of your petitioners wearing apparel, table and baby linen (not even excepting clouts) &c according to schedule exhibited herewith amounting in the whole to one hundred and nineteen pounds original value; but of much greater estimation in the eyes of your petitioner as the greatest part of the womens apparel was either the bounty of or descended from the ancestor's of your petitioner. Add to this that they came not to the knowledge of your petitioner's being possessed of those several articles (which were shewn them by your petitioner as her own) but by their being out of provisions, and liberally treated with the best the house afforded the day before. Your petitioner as soon as she could with convenience repaired to Falmouth to owners and crew for satisfaction of these injuries; and is happy to find the owners and one of the crew willing to redeliver your petitioner such of the booty as is in their possession, which however does not amount to one half of the articles in the schedule mentioned, but the rest refuse to deliver them presuming that the inhabitants of Deer Island are in law enemies; that plunder from them of whatsoever nature is justifiable,— and that the Government of this Commonwealth would support them in it, altho' the husband of your petitioner has inviolably maintained a friendly conduct towards this Country as far forth as his situation would admit, and although as your petitioner is made to understand the Government of this Commonwealth on application for that purpose stedfastly refused to grant permission to the Whale boat afore mentioned to cruize against the enemies of the United States, lest as your petitioner presumes, such enormities might be committed perhaps on the steddiest friends to the American States, or if not that it would be dishonourable to free and independent States to pursue such a mode of war, where the advantage, accruing to the Commonwealth in a

view of interest bears no comparison with domestic distress, and the greatest injury is perhaps done to women and children. Your petitioner therefore reposing the highest confidence in the wisdom, justice, liberality and goodness of this Commonwealth, looks up to your Excellency and honours as the avengers of injuries done not merely to your subjects but to her sex as she is thereby the greatest sufferer, and prays your Excellency and Honours to afford her such relief or express such disapprobation of this conduct as shall seem meet, whereby your petitioner may receive compensation for her sufferings adequate to the injury, and such enormities prevented for the future. And if your Excellency and honours should determine that inhabitants of Deer Island are so far the subjects of this Commonwealth as to be entitled to the privileges of its laws then Your petitioners propose by the advice of Counsel to institute a civil action in the Court of Common Pleas next to be holden at Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln, and prays your Honours to grant a safe protection for themselves and witnesses to appear at said Court, and that some person may be impowered at said Deer Island to take depositions in the case. And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

Mary Campbell

Falm° April 14th 1781

A true inventory of sundry goods of which I was robbed on the night of the 5th of this instant March 1781, by a boat's crew commanded by Nathl Thompson as they say.

One garden satten sack and skirt contg 18 yds @ 3 dollars p yard	£16.4
One paduasoy gown contg 12 yds @ 3 dollars	10.16
One white damask gown contg 10 y'ds @ 15/ p y'd	7.10
One pattern of a petticoat India patch	4.4
Cambrick Holland gown 5 y'ds @ 9/ p yd'	£2.5
One striped cotton gown 5 y'ds @ 5/	.15

One purple white chince gown 5 y'ds @ 3/	.15
One white damask skirt 8 y'ds @ 3/	1.4
One quilted silk petticoat	7.4
One white garlic petticoat 4 y'ds @ 2/	0.8
One white diaper petticoat 3 y'ds @ 3/	.9
One Cambrick apron 18/	18
One fine Holland apron 19/	19
One Cambrick Holland ditto 19/	19
One p^{r} double lawn ruffles 15/	15
One spotted lawn apron 9/	9
One lawn handkerchief 8/	8
One pair deep Cambrick ruffles 9/	9
One gauze handkerchief apron & ruffles	10
One black gauze shade	10
One broad cloth riding hood £6	6.0
One white silk hat & shade	12
One pair silk shoes 16/	16
One pair stays new	2.8
One stone Necklace, 2 ivory stick fans & 5 yards ribbon	1.16
One Cap & 5 yards lace	6.4
One pair English cotton gloves	3
Two fine Holland aprons	1.16
One red rattee n jackett new	£2.10
One black broad cloth coat	2.10
One pair breeches	1.10
One chintz waistcoat	12
Two pair woosted hose	12
One new Holland shirt 24/	1.4
One old ditto	10
One muslin neckcloth	0.6
3 y^{ds} ¾ of superfine broadcloth @ 30/	4.18
Five yards London shatton @ 4/	1.0
One pattern nankeen	1
One pair Dutch Holland sheet	2.8

One pair pillow cases	.6
One Damask Table cloth	2.0
One handkerchief and one towell	0.9
Two damask napkins	0.10
	£94.1
Baby Linnen as follows viz	
Nine shirts 5 of them laced	5
	£99.1
Five bibbs one of them laced	
Fifteen caps 7 of them laced	
One Lutestring 1 dimity & 1 flanel blankets	
One Brocade baby pincushion	
Brought over	99.1
Three clouts 1 damask waistcoat }	
Three pair sleeves one swaith }	5
One Turkey counterpain	10
One yard drab cloth	£ 12
Six & half doz metal spoons	2.0
One new adze, some small tools & tacks	1.0
One spy glass & Mariners compass	1.4
One silver watch	7.
Cash 15 dollars (silver)	4.10
One gun 5w shott and 1 horn of powder	3.0
A chest 3 or 4 yards English duck	1.10
One muslin hood and 2 oz fine thread }	
One lutestring stomacher }	12
Two quarts rum	4
	£119.13

John Campbell

A True Copy Attest Mary Campbell

Goods returned viz

White Holland gown & pair of stays by Capt McLallen

White damask gown, Muslin cap 4¾ yds of canvas returned by Dole

N B. There are some Articles omitted which were not recollected at the time Mr Campbell made out the foregoing Inventory

M Campbell

Petition Nathl Silsbee.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 16th 1781

On the Petition of Nathl Silsbee in behalf of himself & others Oners of the Ship Hunter, lost on the Penobscot expedition, praying they may be reimbursed for the same for reasons set forth in their Petition—

Resolved that the Oners of s^d Ship Hunter be & they hereby are directed, to settle their acco^ts with the late Board of War; & ascertain the exact ballance now due to them for s^d Ship &c, and it is further Resolved that the Governor with the advice of Council, be & he is hereby requested to grant a warrant on the Treasurer for the Whole of S^d Ballance so adjusted, on condition, that the Oners of s^d ship will Loan to Government five Sixths of the amount of s^d warrant, agreable to the Supply Bill for Borrowing £800000, passed this Session, the remaining one Sixth to be paid in Specie, or Bills of Credit equivalent thereto—

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 17th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

Approv'd John Hancock

Order to Committee to Deliver Message to Governor.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

in the House of Representatives April 17th 1781

Ordered that Major Lithgow and Mr Henshaw with such as the Honourable Senate shall appoint be a Committee to wait on his Excellency the Governor with the following Message. ¶ May it please your Excellency,

The General Court request to be informed what Measures have been adopted during the Recess, by your Excellency, for the protection of the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth —[A] Also whether any Answer has been received from his Excellency General Washington, to Your Excellency's Letter, respecting the detention of the Troops raised in the three Eastern Counties for the purpose of reinforcing the Continental Army [B]

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 17th 1781

Read & Concurred

wth the Amendment at A to B & John Pitts Esqr is joined

Sent down for Concurrence

Jere Powell Presidt

viz, dele from A to B

In the House of Representatives April 17th 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Resolve Placing Troops Under General Lincoln.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives. April 17th 1781

Whereas by a Resolution of the General Court of the 9th day of February last the Troops ordered to be raised in the three eastern Counties of this Commonwealth as their quota of

the Continental Army according to a Resolve of the 2d of december last, were retained in the said Counties untill the Pleasure of his Excellency General Washington respecting their future destination should be known; whereas it appears that General Washington is of Opinion that sd the public service requires that the sd Troops be immediately forwarded to the Grand Army therefore—

Resolv'd that the sd Resolve of the 9th of Feby last so far as it respects the detention of sd Troops in the said Counties or either of them be and it is hereby repealed, and that the sd Troops in future be subject to the Order of the honble Major General Lincoln's.

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speakr

In Senate April 17th 1781—

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of George Bacon.

Commonwealth of Massachusets

In the House of Representatives Apriel the 17: 1781

On the representation of John Lucas Commasary of pentioners in behalf of George Bacon a merean on bord the Continental Ship Warren was wouded in his arms at penobscut in July 1779 as appears by his Certificate.

Resolved that George Bacon is intitled to one thurd of his pay to Commence from his discharge which was the fourteenth of August 1779

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spr

In Senate April 19th 1781

Read & Concurred Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Boston Novemr 4th 1780

This may Certify that George Bacon was a marean on board the Ship Warren at the Expedition at Penobscot Dudly Saustout Commander and that the sd Bacon Recevd a Wound in his arm that has deprived him of the use of it

Jos Bradford Surgeon in Navy

Boston February the 7: 1781

this may Sertify that George Bacon was a merean on bord of the Warren frigate in the Continental Servase and was wounded at the landing in his arm at bagaduse in July 1779

Doct Eliphelet Downer

Governor Hancock to the Senate & House of Representatives.

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives —

In Reply to your Message of yesterday, I am to inform you that the Provisions & Stores necessary for the Eastern Department are on board the Mars and the Galley, & they will sail in two Days, & the necessary orders for Guards are now Issuing. It was judg'd most Adviseable, for the Publick Interest, to Suspend the Execution of these orders untill the present time, they will now be carried into immediate effect — John Hancock

Council Chamr April 18, 1781

Order to Reimburse Stephen Smith.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Council Chamber April 19, 1781

Ordered — That Richard Devons Esq. Commissary General to deliver James Avery for Capt Stephen Smith at

Machias the Deficiency of Provisions borrowed for the Use of the Troops & Indians under the Command of Col° John Allen as p^r return agreeable to a Resolve of the General Court of the 15th November last

Attest John Avery Sec'y

1780 Col° John Allen to the Board of War D^r

Decem 2	To 2 Barrels pork	440 ℔
	2 ditto Beef	480 ℔

Delivered in part pay for Provisions he Borrow'd for me of the Troops & Indians. p^r order of Court 15th Novem.

Resolve in Favor of Wm. Hubbard.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 20th 1781

On the Representation of John Lucas Commissary of Pensioners in behalf of William Hubbard a Marine on board the Continental Ship Warren & who was wounded by a musket ball through the knee the 29th of July 1779 at Majorbagaduce by which wound he has lost the use of his leg as appears by his Certificate

Resolved that the said William Hubbard is intitled to half pay as a Marine to commence from the 2^d of Septem^br 1779 the time of his discharge—

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 20th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

Approv'd John Hancock

Certificates in Favor Wm. Hubbard.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives

John Lucas In behalf of Wm Hubbard a Merene on board the Cont'^{l} Ship Warren, and who was Wounded by a Musket ball through the Knee the 29th of July 1779 at Majorbigwayduce by w^{h} wound he lost the use of his right leg — all of wch Appears by Coppeys of his Certificates the origenal being lost, or mislay^{d}

John Lucas Com^{sry} of Pensioners

Pension Office at Boston 20th Ap^{l} 1781

Navey Board East^{n} Department

Boston 5th of May 1780

This Certifies that Wm Hubbard was a merean on board the Ship Warren, on the Expidtion to Penobscot, as Appears by the Ships pay role, returned unto this Office, and the Navey Board are Inform'd that he there lost his Right leg or the Cause of it —

J Warren for the board

These Certifie that Wm Hubbard a Marean on board the Ship Warring, & who was wound^{d} Thr^{o} the right Knee by wch he lost the Use of it

Jos. Gardner Sergen

Boston 9th May 1780

Pension Office at Boston 20th Ap^{l} 1781

A Trew Coppey Jno Lucas

Order for Revision of Resolves for Defence Eastern Counties.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 20th 1781

Ordered that Mr Tracy, Mr Wells & Col^{o} Thorndick with such as the hon. Senate shall join be a Committee to revise the Resolves for guarding & defending the Eastern Counties

— consider what further measures are proper to be taken for that purpose & report thereon

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 20th 1781

Read & Concurred & Jedidiah Preble & Jona Greenleaf Esqrs are joined on the part of the Senate

Jer: Powell Presidt

Resolve to Stay Proceeding Hodge vs. Reed.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives April 21st 1781

The Committee on the Petition of Andrew Reed of Boothbay in the County of Lincoln beg leave to Report the following Resolve

Whereas it appears to this Court that the Sloop Townsend the Property of Andrew Reed of Boothbay in the County of Lincoln was on the 22d day of July in the Year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred & seventy nine taken into the service of Government on the Expedition against Penobscut being undertaken and improved by General Lovell as a hospital Ship and that she together with the rest of the Fleet was lost on the Retreat from before that place. That Henry Hodge of Pownalborough in the same County the former Owner of said Sloop, availing himself of the late Act for better regulating the Currency of sd Commonwealth has commenced his Action against the said Andrew & one Robert Reed who purchased her of him altho' they repeatedly tendered the Money which they agreed to pay him by their Note of hand for said sloop at the time when it became due, which Action is now pending at the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas to be holden at pownalbor° within and for said County of Lincoln on the first

Tuesday of June next, by which means the said Andrew Reed & his family will probably be involved in ruinous Circumstances, unless prevented by the equitable intervention of the Legislature, therefore

Resolved that the Justices of the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas in the County of Lincoln be and they are hereby directed to continue from Term to Term the Action of Henry Hodge of Pownalbor° in said County Yeoman against Andrew Reed of Boothbay in said County Esquire and Robert Reed of said Boothbay Mariner on their Note of hand dated the fourteenth day of Augus^t 1777 payable in Nine Months after the date of said Note for the sum of One hundred & sixty pounds which was to be equal to five hundred & thirty three Spanish Milled Dollars and one third of a Dollar A untill the further Order of the General Court B.

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speak^r

In Senate April 21st 1781

Read & non Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

In Senate April 21st 1781

Read again & the Senate Reconsider their Vote of Non concurrence & Concur with an Amendment at A to B

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

viz — dele, from A to B — and insert, "to the Inferiour Court to be held in said County of Lincoln, the last Tuesday of Septr next" —

In the House of Representatives April 23, 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Spk^r

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in re Troops for Eastern Country.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Committee of both Houses on Eastern affairs beg leave to report the following Resolve

Jedidiah Preble p order

Whereas the depredations committed & daily committing on the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth by the Enemy from Penobscut & Halifax evince the immediate Necessity of a military Establishment in the Eastern Counties adequate to the purposes of preventing detached parties of the Enemy from plundering their Frontiers with impunity — Wherefore

Resolved that One hundred & sixty effective Men be immediately raised in the County of Lincoln by voluntary inlistment for the defence of the same, and stationed at such places and in such proportion within the said County to the Westward of Penobscut River as the Governor with the advice of Councill may from time to time Order, provided always and it is hereby further resolved that the Recruiting Officers appointed for this purpose shall have full Liberty to inlist Men part of the Number aforesaid in any such Towns in the Counties of York and Cumberland as may have procured their proportion of Continental Troops assessed upon them Respectively by a Resolution of the General Court of the 2d of Decr last.

And it is further Resolved that Eighty Men be raised as aforesaid in the Counties of York and Cumberland and stationed at Falmo within the Limits of the latter, the whole of said Troops to be properly armed and equiped and to continue in the Service of said Commonwealth from the time of their respective engagements untill the first day of Decr next unless sooner discharged; that they shall be mustered by the Muster Master in their respective Counties, that those Troops to be raised as aforesaid in the County of Lincoln

shall be divided into 2 Companies, that those stationed at Falmouth compose one Company, the whole of said Companies to be on the continental Establishment in every Respect, save only that the Non Commissioned Officers and privates shall in addition to their Continental pay be intitled to Receive a further sum of Twenty shillings per Month for each Callender Month they shall respectively continue in Service as aforesaid; which together with their Continental pay shall be paid in Gold and silver or an equivalent in Bills of Credit current within this Commonwealth; said Companies to be Officered by the Governor with the Advice of Council and commanded by such field Officer or Officers as the Governor with the advice of Council shall direct. That a Surgeon, Surgeons Mate Quarter Master & Adjutant Shall be appointed by the Governor with the advice of Council to be also on the Continental Establishment.

And it is further Resolved that the said Troops during their Continuance in service as aforesaid shall be subject to march out of either of the said Counties into the Other as occasion may require at the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

And it is further Resolved that the Agent for this Commonwealth be & he is hereby empowered and directed to procure either by hire or Purchase as he shall Judge best and fit for sea as speedily as possible Two armed Vessells to be employed within said Commonwealth as Guarda Coastas to be under the Direction of the Governer & Councill neither of which Vessells to mount less than Ten nor more than fourteen four or six pounders —

And it is further Resolved that the said Armed Vessells during this Continuance in service as aforesaid shall be on such Establishment as the General Court shall hereafter order

And it is further Resolved that such of the Troops aforesaid as shall be unable to furnish themselves with Arms or Accoutrements shall have liberty to purchase them out the public Arms &c which were ordered to be procured & forwarded to the lower Counties by a Resolve of the General Court of the 9th day of Feby last paying for each Arm with a Bayonet and Cartouch Box the sum of Fifty Shillings and For each Fire arm & Bayonet without a Cartouch Box the sum of Forty five shillings to be deducted out of their Wages respectively, and the Commanding Officer is hereby directed to take duplicate Receits for all Fire Arms &c that may be delivered to said Troops as aforesaid one of which to be lodged in the Secretary's Office prior to their pay Rolls being made up — provided Nevertheless that Each Soldier who shall when he is Discharged turn his Fire Arm & Accoutrements to the Commanding officer in good order shall have no Deduction made from his wages therefor And it is further Resolved that the Militia who have done duty or are now doing duty in the County of Lincoln & Cumberland be on such Establishment as the General Court shall hereafter Order

In Senate April 23d 1781
Read & Sent down

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives April 24th 1781
Read & accepted
sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speakr

In Senate April 24th 1781
Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition Scarboro' Gridley.

To the Honorable Senate and Hon'ble House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Scarboro' Gridley Humbly Shews By an Order of the former Council of this Commonwealth Your Petitioner was order'd to Falmouth, in the County of Cumberland, as Engineer to erect such Fortifications as should be judg'd by General Wadsworth & himself to be necessary for the defence of the Eastern part of this State;

Your Petitioner proceeded accordingly and continued on the business untill the Troops were dismiss'd that Service, he is sorry to say that they are still incompleat through the want of Materials, such as Timber, plank, picquets &c &c —

Your Petitioner on this service incur'd an Expence of Board of 1800 £ for which he is still in arrears; As Your Petitioner has not received any pay for Eighteen Months past, nor depreciation, nor Cloathing, nor any other Emolument that the Rest of the Officers of this State receiv'd; notwithstanding his having continued in the Service, from the first commencement of the War; which has utterly put it out of his power to discharge the sum mention'd; Your Petitioner prays your Honors to grant him such supplys as in your Wisdom shall seem meet and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Scarboro': Gridley

Boston Jany 29th 1781
In Senate Jany 29th 1780
Read & sent down
Jere Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Feby 5: 1781
Read &

Resolve in Favor Scarboro' Gridley.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

In House of Representatives April 23d 1781

On the Petition of Scarboro' Gridley A Seting forth yt by Order of the Former Council he was ordred to Falmouth in the County of Cumberland as Engineer to Erect Fortifications under the Directions of Genl Wadsworth (the truth of which Appears by his Commission for that Purpose Dated May 10th 1780) That he incured an Expence of Board of Eighteen Hundred Pounds. That he has not Received any pay for Eighteen months Past nor depreciation nor Cloathing &c notwithstanding his having continued in the Service from the first commencement of the War, praying for supplies &c B.

Resolved that there be paid out of the Public Treasurer of this Comon Wealth forty five Pounds new Emission equal to the sd Sum of Eighteen Hundred Pounds mentioned in Said Petition he to be accountable for the same — And that his Excellency the Governor be desired to write to Genl Washington Requesting him to give information what Rank & Standing Scarbor': Gridley Esqr has in the Continental Army. And from whence He is to Receive his Pay

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 25th

Read & Concurred with an Amendment at A to B viz dele, from A to B

Jer: Powell Presidt

sent down for Concurrence

In the House of Representatives April 25th 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

warrant drawn

Petition John Hathaway.

To the Honourable the Senate And House of Representatives
of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

the petition of John Hathaway in The name and behalf of the Town of Freetown humbly Sheweth That the Town of Freetown Did procure the most of the men laid On Said Town to Serve in the Continental Army for the Term of nine Month in the Year 1779 but by Reason of not making a proper Return of S^d^ men the S^d^ Town of Freetown was fined which fine Your petitioner prays may be Repaid to Said Town again So far as He Can make Evidently to Appear by the Sertificates herewith Exhibitted S^d^ Town did procure S^d^ men or otherways Releive S^d^ Town as you in your wisdom Shall See meat as your Petitioner In Duty bound Shall Ever pray

John Hathway

April 24th 1781

Resolve in re Establishment at Machias.

The Committee of both Houses on the Letter from Congress Respecting an Establishment at Machias & the Resolve thereof accompanying the same &c have attended that Service & beg leave to Report the following Resolve

John Bliss P^r^ order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives April 24th 1781

Resolved that the Governor & Council of this Commonwealth be & hereby are Requested in Compliance with the Resolve of Congress dated the 15th day of February 1781 to give the necessary Directions for compleating the Company of Artillery at the Post of Machias to the Number mentioned in said Resolve

And it is further Resolved that the Governor with the Advice of Council be & hereby is empowered to Order the Comissary General of this Commonwealth to furnish the Troops which are or hereafter may be Stationed at said Post in pursuance of said Resolve with such Supplies as from Time to time may be judged necessary & the Commissary General is hereby directed once in Six Months & oftener if required to lay his Accounts of all such Supplies before the General Court for Examination & Allowance & in Order that the same may be charged to the United States

Read & sent down

Jer. Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives April 25th 1781

Read & accepted

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 25th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Major Wheaton.

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Major Wheaton Commander of the fourth Reg^{t} of Militia in the County of Lincoln — ¶ Humbly Sheweth, that the Distresses of Said Regiment Dayly received from the Enemy requires him to Repeat his Request of your Honours for Immediate Relief, no longer ago than yesterday a party from Major Bagaduce, which Landed in Camden in the Night and made Prisoners of Seven In-

habitants which were good friends to the State, and most of them heads of large Families, the Stores Belonging to the Publick which were left by the Troops, were either Carried off or Destroyed, together with the Barracks — at the Same time your Petitioner Humbly Beggs by the Desire of the Inhabitants, that your Honours would give them Immediate Relief, both with men and Provisions, otherwise we must fall an easy Prey to the Enemy, their being Neglected I impute to your having Business of Greater importance on hand, but I begg you would lay them under further Obligations by affording them your earliest Assistance, which if granted will be greatfully Acknowledged by me who as in Duty Bound will ever Pray

Major Wheaton

Thomaston April 25th 1781

In the House of Representatives May 4th 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that this Letter be committed to the Committee on Colo Allen's Letter inclosed in a Letter from the Committee of Correspondence &c for the Town of Boston

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 4th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Resolve Granting Privilege of Transporting Corn.

In Senate April 26 1781

Whereas it has been represented to this Court that the Inhabitants of a place called Deer Island A have had many outrages and Violences committed upon them by some of the Inhabitants of this Commonth And Whereas doubts may arise whether under the present Circumstances of said Inhabitants,

they have by law a Right to prosecute to final Judgment and execution such persons, as have or may be Guilty of plundering or in any Way or Manner Abusing, the said Inhabitants, for Removal of which It is Resolved that the Inhabitants of said Island have been, and now are considered in such a Situation as that they ought to have and enjoy the same Protection, Security, and Advantage from the laws of this Commonwealth, as the other Subjects thereof do, or may exercise & enjoy —

B And Whereas application has been made to this Court by Josiah Crockett an Inhabitant of said Island for liberty to transport a small Quantity of Indian Corn for the Relief of the Suffering Inhabitants of said Island —

Therefore Resolved that the said Josiah Crockett be, and he hereby is permitted, to purchase and transport to sd Island for the Use of sd Inhabitants to Fifty Bushels of Indian Corn & no more he giving Bond with good Sureties to the Naval Officer of the Port from whence said Corn shall be exported that the same shall be faithfully delivered and appropriated to the Use of s^d^ Inhabitants — C

In Senate April 26th 1781

Read & Accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives April 27, 1781

Read & concurred with an amendment at A. B. C

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

viz at A insert "in the County of Lincoln," Dele from B to C —

In Senate April 27th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Prisoners.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 26, 1781

Whereas Stephen Pembleton of Penobscott Sound, who last Summer murdered Mr Soal of Broad Bay; & John Long, who last fall broke from Falm^{o} Goal, where he was committed by special Order from Council to take trial for traiterous Practices against this & the United States of America; & Elisha Cheesbrook, who made his Escape last Summer from the Guard at Thomaston, where he was confined to take Trial for Treasonable practices against this & the United States of America; Also Wm Parry, Wm Gammon, James Fling, Joseph Millican, Jame Crocket, Wm Whitaker James Stewart, Inhabitants in & about Penobscott Sound, are now held as Prisoners lately taken on board an armed Sloop in the Enemy's service; & Whereas their Exchange would be highly injurious to this & the United States of America, therefore Resolved that the Governor be & he hereby is requested to take measures that s^{d} Pembleton, Long & Chessebrook be effectually secured for Tryal; & that s^{d} Parry, Gammon, Fling, Millican, Crockett, Whitaker, Stewart be effectually secured, & held unexchangable till the further order of the General Court

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate April 26th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives April 26th 1781

The House having considered the Governors objections in his message of this day this Resolve, agreeable to the constitution — reconsider their vote hereon

Caleb Davis Speaker

Gentlemen of the Senate & Gentlemen of the House of Representatives

Your Resolve of this Day Requesting me to take measures for effectually securing certain "persons therein named, points out a certain "Stephen Pembleton of Penobscot Sound who last Summer "murder'd Mr Soal of Broad Bay," if it was proper in all other Respects, it would be necessary that I should be furnish'd with the Evidence of his being the Murderer, before I give my Sanction to the Resolve, but it seems to be against the 25th Article of the Bill of Rights in the Constitution of this Commonwealth, I cannot therefore consistently Sign the Resolve

John Hancock

Council Chamber 26 April 1781—

In the House of Representatives April 26, 1781

Resolved that the Honble Council be desired to send Orders to the Commanding Officer of the County of Lincoln, not to suffer small scouting Parties to molest or disturb the Inhabitants of Penobscott under their present distressed Circumstances,

True Extract from a Resolve passed Octr 7th 1779

Attest John Avery D Secy.

Certificate in Favor Josiah Crockett.

we the Subscribers inhabetance of Deer island Do hereby Certife that Mr Josiah Crocket has lived on Said Island for a number of years past = and we farther Certifie that we have never knowen him to Say or Act aney thing against this Cuntry but on the Contreary his Conduct has been Such as Renders him a good neighbour and a Vallewible member of Sociaty = N : B the above is a Unanimous vote of Said in-

habetance at a meeting Calld on the ocation of Said Crockets being Robed of Sundry goods on the 6 of this instant March by an armed boats Crew Commanded by Nath[l] Thompson as they Sead

John Dow

Deer island March 9th 1781

Alig Haskall	John Gressy Junor	John Hooper
Stephen bubbage	Will[m] Babbidge	Chas Cressy
James Sanders	John Howard	Joseph Colby
Timothy Sanders	Ezar Howard	Thomas Sanders
Ezekiel Morey	Mark Haskell	Lot Curtis
Jonathan Eaton	Nathan Dow	Jonathan Torvey
Thos Robbins	Francis Haskell	John Raynes
Benjamin Cole	Richerd Crocket	Nathan Raynes
Ignatius Haskell	George fales (?)	Nathaniel Bray
William Grenlaw	Ezekiel Marshall	Cornelius Bramhall
William Stinson	John Pressey (?)	Thom Stinson

Resolve Relating to Pay of Soldiers.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives 28 Apr: 1781

Whereas there are in the Counties of York, Cumberland, & Lincoln a number of Officers & Soldiers, who have been called upon & done Duty in s[d] Counties; but have received no pay for their Services; & whereas pay for past Services will be highly conducive & may be necessary to facilitate raising the men already ordered to be raised by voluntary Inlistment for the defence of the eastern country; and whereas it may be most convenient to pay s[d] men by Receits given on the Collectors in the Counties afores[d]

Therefore Resolved, that the Treasurer be, & he hereby is directed to give Receits on the Collectors in the Counties of

York, Cumberland & Lincoln in answer to the Warrants given on the pay Rolls made up for the Officers & Soldiers aforesaid, in all Cases where he cannot conveniently advance the Money from the Treasury.

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate April 28th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial of Inhabitants of Machias.

DUPLICATE.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of Machias on the 29th of April 1781: and continued by adjournment to the 10th day of April 178

May it please your Excellency ¶ When the peace and safety of a State is disturbed by persons endeavouring to make innovations therein — when any particular person or Persons evince a disposition inimical to the Laws of their Country; and in time of War, are using their utmost endeavours to open a Trade with the Enemy; lulling the people asleep by various arts, in order to make them stand Neuter in the Contest; when such measures are pursuing; it is the duty of every good subject, to awaken their Country men to a sense of the danger — drag the offender to justice, and preserve the freedom of the State.— ¶ With this view; the inhabitants of Machias, beg leave to inform your Excellency, that similar measures have been in contemplation for some time past, and there has not been wanting in our Neighbourhood, those who have endeavoured to carry them into Execution, A certain Francis Shaw of Gouldsborough (who is now

& has been for five years past second Major of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in this County) lately sent a Letter to Stephen Jones Esqr of this place who was then Chairman of the Committee inclosing a paper, called a "Representation of the Inhabitants living between the Rivers Penobscott & St Croix," addressed to your Excellency, the Honble the Senate & the Honble House of Representatives; and desiring our concurrence therein; which paper makes many complaints of grievances which the Inhabitants of the Eastern Country have experienced, & to which they yet remain obnoxious, by reason of their adherence to the Independence of America, it also contains other matters equally absurd; and concludes by praying your Excellency & Honors to Sett of the Inhabitants there in mentioned, To remain Neuter," With a view as we conceive to be in a situation to trade more openly with the Enemy, Said Francis Shaw Also in his Said Letter holds up to us the Idea, that even your Excellency had been consulted & approved said plan, that Government was unable or unwilling any longer to support us; therefore we had an undoubted right to take such measures as we should judge proper — ¶ Said letter & papers being Laid before the Inhabitants, after consideration thereon at a very full meeting Unanimosly Came into the Resolutions which are closed. ¶ We herewith send your Excellency a Copy of said Letter and of the paper which accompanied it, not doubting but your Excell^{y} will take such measures, as will not only frustrate the designs of our Enemies, but deter others from following such courses, as must end in their own destruction —

We have no doubt of the good disposition of your Excellency and the other branches of Government, towards us: we have often experienced your bounty & Care without which, we shuld be now groaning under that Tyranny which our internal enemies are now striveing to bring on us; under the precious pretext of Neutrality. We therefore hope we shall

not now be given up for a prey, but that our political Fathers will yet continue to protect us, and animate us still to hold out and persevere in the defence of the Liberties to which we are intitled; and untill the Independence of America Shall be Acknowledged by our Enemies. ¶ We have undoubted intelligence that our Enemies are determined to take of some of the principel persons among us most obnoxious to them, (which may Easily be done) Thinking by that means to drive us into measures to which they have hitherto in vain endeavoured to allure us. Our coasts are daily infested by the numerous Privatears of the Enemy which rendezvous at Bagwaduce, & we have too much reason to believe a correspondence is kept up by Some persons in our neighbourhood, most contiguous to the Enemy. Namely Colo[l] Nathan Jones, Capt William Nickells & the said Francis Shaw——

Cap[t] Daniel Sullivan, commander of the Company of Militia at Frenchmans Bay was laitely taken out of his bed & carried to Bagwaduce, his house, with that next to it, burned by a party from that place, because he was forward in opposing their plans, by which some of our friends are disheartned, and the enemy suppose if they can by any means become masters of this place, they will all between this place & Bagwaduce fall in with them; which if so, will give them the Lumber trade of which they stand in much need, and divest the Commonwealth of all territory East of Penobscott. Being near one Hundred Miles sea coast — ¶ In order to frustrate their plans, permit us to point out Some measures which in our opinion will curb their insolence & establish our safety Let one Company of Men be stationed at Frenchman's-bay, two Companies at this place, and two or three Vessells of force cruise the Shore, this together with the Militia would put our Enemies out of all hopes of reducing us, encourage our friends & Confirm those more contigeous to the Enemy, who may be wavering: It would also put a stop to

persons going to & from Bagwaduce & Nova Scotia which is not at present in our power to prevent — ¶ The Inhabitants of this Commonwealth East of Union River ware so highly pleased with the Election of your Excellency to the first office in our Commonwealth, that they thought it their duty to express their entire complacency in our Chief Majestrate, and their grateful sence of the divine favour in granting us one of our selves, one of the first in the Glorious cause of Freedom, and one, in our apprehension, so well qualified to rule over us; in a humble and cordial address — ¶ That address received the approbation of the different Towns in this district, and was signed by all the Committees by order of their Respective Towns; but Not withstanding all our precaution, it was unhappily preserved, as we are informed by a suspected person Namely Col° Nathan Jones above mentioned, from whence your Excellency might possibly be induced to view it as the sycophantic production of a few disiging Men, rather than the genuine feelings & sentiments of a faith full & brave People. (in which agreeable point of light, your Excellency undoubtedly may and ought to view it — ¶ Your Excellency may rely upon the affection & fidelity of the Inhabitants of these plantations in general, notwithstanding all their present difficulties: and that they will exert themselves to the utmost, against all the enemies to the peace & Independence of the United States of America. We therefore humbly request that your Excellency & the Hon^bl the General Court will be pleased in their wonted goodness and generosity to grant us as expeditiously as possible, such aid & assistance as may be Necessary to enable us to take proper Measures to avert the designs of our enemies.

By order of the Committee

Stephen Smith Chairman

His Excellency Jn° Hancock Esqr

Resolve in Favor Ebenezer Perkins.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

House of Representatives April 30th 1781

On the representation of John Lucas Commissary of Pensioners in behalf of Ebenezer Perkins a Marine on board the Continental Ship Warring & was wounded in an Action with the Enemy at Majorbagaduce as appears by his certificate

Resolved that the said Ebenezer Perkins is intitled to one third pay as a Marine to commence Sept 2d 1779 the day of his discharge—

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spkr

In Senate April 30th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor Joshua Swan.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts }

In the House of Representatives April 30th 1781

On the Petition of Joshua Swan, Praying for a Grant of A Strip of Land, Containing About five Hundred Acres, Scituate In the Late Province of Main, near A Township Called Fullers Town, Laying Between two Mountains

Resolved that the Prayer of the Petition be Granted on the Following Conditions. (Viz) that the Above Named Joshua Swan be Intitled to the Above discribed Land, he paying the Just Value thereof Togeather with the Expence of Servaying & apprizeing the same, and Settle Two Famileys on Sd Premises in three Years after he Shall be Intitled thereunto. And that Simon Frye Mr Jonathan Bartlet & Captn Joseph Frye justs be a Committee on Oath, to Measure Delineate, Apprise, make out, and Execute a good and Lawfull Deed

of S^{d} Land, on the Conditions aforesaid, to the Said Joshua Swan. And Receive the Money for S^{d} Land, And Convey the Same into the Treasury office of this Commonwealth, and take Duplicate Recpts therefor, one of which to be Lodged in the Secretary's office. And make Return of their doings to the General Court, as Soon as may be

Whereas I Joshua Swan Not long Since Petition'd this Commonwealth for a Strip of Land Describ'd in s^{d} Petition Shewing my Willingness to Purchase as much of s^{d} Strip as my Ability will Inable me — And understanding that the Report of the Com^{ttee} on s^{d} Petition hath been Objected to on Account of the Petitioners have Liberty to take a Certain part of s^{d} Strip — To Remove which Objection I Will undertake to Purchase the Whole (tho' it Should Surmount my Interest) By Procuring money on Loan If this Honble Court in their Wisdom Judge it will be more for the Interest of the Commonwealth to Sell the Whole than a Part thereof

Joshua Swan

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Methuen April 10: 1781
To the Great & General Court of the Commonwealth afores^{d}
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Essex Ss

Methuen Feby 19^{t} 1781

To the Honourable the Senate, And House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Joshua Swan, Humbly Sheweth That Your Petitioner is Dispos'd to Purchase of this Commonwealth a Strip of Land of about Five hundred Acres, Situate in the Late Province of Main Contiguous to a Tract of Land of four hundred Acres laid out to Satisfy a Grant made to John Dennis, which Strip Lies between two Mountains, on both Sides of a Stream Called Sundy River, which Unites its Waters with the Great Androscoggin River in a Township Called fullers Town

That your Petitioner is Willing to give the full Value of s^d Strip of Land in Cash, as Soon as he Shall be Entitled to the Same — That as he hath no Land of his own to Improve he is Desirous of Purchasing s^d Strip that he may be Enabled thereby with his own Industry to Provide Subsistence for his Family.

Wherefore Your Petitioner Humbly Intreats this Honourable Court to make him a Grant of So many Acres of s^d Strip of Land as he is able to Purchase — And as in Duty bound Prays. Your Petitioner Joshua Swan

Petition of Andrew Brown.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court assembled.

The Petition of Andrew Brown, Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioner served in the American Army from the Memorable 19th of April 1775, to the first of November last, and in the Muster Master General's department, from the 15th of May 1777, to the 12th of January 1780. Your Petitioner was appointed for the Eastern department, and this State became his station, in which the greatest part of his duty lay,

When the Money began to depreciate, many of the Mustering Officers resigned, particularly, the officer for the State of Rhode Island, when Your Petitioner had not only the duty of his own department to attend to, but was frequently obliged to travel to, and throughout that state, to Muster the troops there. 'Tis useless to trouble Your Honours with a lengthy account of the fatigues he underwent, and the expenses he was exposed to, in traveling almost every month, Summer and Winter, to all parts of this State, where troops of any kind were Quartered, for near three years; This is too well known to some of your Honors, to render it necessary to say much upon it here.

In every stage of the depreciation of the Money, your Petitioner received the strongest assurances from his Principal that he would be paid for his services; But to this hour he has not received either pay, expences or Depreciation.

Your Petitioner was at the expence of a Journay last September to Head Quarters, in hopes of receiving his pay, but Gen[l] Green, who then Commanded, (His Excellency being at Hartford) informed your Petitioner, that he could not be rewarded anywhere, but by the state he belonged to, or where he did the Duty.

Your Petitioner having waited from Month to Month, and from Year to Year, and being reduced to circumstances exceedingly peculiar, is obliged to look up to your Honors, most earnestly praying for immediate relief, by a settlement of his accounts and payment of his reasonable demands, in such a way as to your great wisdom shall appear right.

And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray

And[w] Brown

May 1st 1781

In Congress 12th Jan[y] 1780

Resolved, That the mustering Department be discontinued and the Officers thereof discharged. And whereas the Commissary General of Musters has approved himself a good and faithful Officer, and those who have been employed under him have given satisfaction in their Offices.

Resolved, That the said Commissary General of Musters, and those Officers who have continued in that Department eighteen months last past, shall be entitled to receive a sum equal to their pay respectively for the term of twelve months from this day.

Resolved, That in future the business of mustering the Troops be performed by the Inspectors of the Army in such

manner and under such regulations as the Commander in Chief shall direct, who is hereby authorised to make the arrangements reporting the same to Congress.

Extract from the minutes.

Chs Thomson Sec^{y}

In Congress 7th Feby 1780

Resolved, That the Commissary General of Musters, his Deputies and muster Masters be allowed one hundred Dollars per month for each retained Ration, from the 18th of August last to the 12 of January last, when the Department was Discontinued in like manner as the Officers in the line.

Extract from the minutes.

Geo. Bond Dep^{y} Sec^{y}

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 7th 1781

On the Petition of Maj^{r} Andrew Brown Deputy Muster-Master for the Eastern Department, Praying for the Depresiation of his wages to be made Good for the Reasons Set forth in his Petition — Resolved, That the Committee appointed to Settle the Depresiation with the officers and Soldiers of the Continental army be Directed to make up the Depresiation of the wages due to Maj^{r} Andrew Brown and that it be Paid in the same manner as the officers in the Massachusetts Line of the army are Paid.

Resolve in Favor John McGoff.

To the Honble Council,

John Lucas Coms^{ry} of Pensions for this State, in behalf of John McGoff Seaman on board the Brig^{t} Belonging to this

State who lost his Right Leg the 30th of march 1779 in an Engagement wth the Enemy as Appears by his Certificates —

John Lucas Comsry

Boston Octr 10, 1779

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May the 1781

On the representation of John Lucas Commissary of Pentioners in behalf of John McGoff Seaman on Bord the Brigg Tyranaside in the servase of this Commonwealth who lost his leg the 30th of march 1779 as appears by his Certificates ¶ Resolved the said John McGoff is intitled to half his pay as a seaman to Commence from his discharge which was the 21 of Apriel 1779

Resolve on the Letter from Colo Allan.

The Committee appointed on the Letter from Colo Allen and papers accompanying report the following Resolve and ask leave to report same

John Pitts p order

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May 2d 1781

Resolved that the Governor with advice of Council be, & hereby is requested, to take such measures respecting the Persons represented in Colo Allens Letters and Papers accompanying it, to be to an Inimical disposition towards these United States, as the public Safety may require

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presidt

In the House of Representatives May 2d 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Affidavit of David Jenks.

Boston 26 April 1781

David Jenks of lawful age testifieth & saith that last Summer between the latter end of May & the beginning of Septr being a Prisoner on Board the Albany at Bigwaduce, he repeatedly saw Francis Shaw of Goldsborough at Bigwaduce. He appeared intimate with the British Officers both of the Army & Navy at s^d Bigwaduce, & also appeared to be there on business. He further testifieth that he saw s^d Shaw as above described as often as three different times with considerable Intervals

David Jenks

Suffolk, Ss. Boston 26 April 1781

The above subscribed David Jenks, being duly cautioned made solemn Oath to the truth of the above Declaration, before me

R. White J. Pacis

Letter of Francis Shaw to Stephen Jones.

Gouldsborough 17th March 1781 —

D^r S^r

I was in hopes to have had the pleasure of your Company last Wednesday, when I Intended to have propos'd to you our Intentions of Endeavouring to be put into a Neutral State, the Matter has been proposed this way and almost Unanimously Accepted, Inclosed you have a Copy of the Representation we propose to make to his Excellency the Governor & Honble Court and Doubt not it will be Approv'd of, as Discoursing with his Excellency respecting the Situation of the Country, he Say'd it was not in the Power of the Court to protect us, Therefore we had an undoubted Right to make the best Terms we cou'd to save our Families and In-

terests, how it may be Receiv'd by your Town I can't Say, (As they are in part Supported) But I dare say it will be Agreed to this way, as we are not, nor cannot be protected, You will be kind enough after Perusal to send it to the Committees of Chanders & Pleasant River that if they think Proper they may Join with the Towns this way, As I Expect there will be an Oppertunity to send it from this place in 10 or 12 Days, I Shall Sett off in my Boat for Boston Tomorrow, As our Neighbours at Major Bagaduce have taken the Schooner we came down in, & my Business calls me Immediately there with Sutable Respects I Remain Dr Sr Your most hum Servt

Fra: Shaw J^r

Stephen Jones Esqr

This may certifie that I receiv'd the within Letter by the hand of Mr James Noonan

p^r Stephen Jones

This is a true copy of the Original

Attest J. Noble Shannon, Cl. of Com^tee

At a very full Meeting of the Inhabitants of Machias, legally warned and assembled on the 29th day of March 1781. Was presented by Stephen Jones Esqr a Letter which he receiv'd from Francis Shaw Esqr of Gouldsborough, with a Representation that came inclosed to said Jones in said Letter; the same being read in open Meeting, the Inhabitants Unanimously came into the following Resolutions.

1st Resolved, That the said Letter and Representation be deposited in the hands of the Committee. To which the said Stephen Jones Esqr chearfully agreed.

2^d Resolved, That the Inhabitants of this Plantation do hereby express the utmost abhorrence both of the subject matter of said Representation and Letter of the 17th ins^t signed by Francis Shaw of Gouldsborough; who hath made it evi-

dent that he hath his private Interest at heart, more than the good of his Country. And we do hereby declare that we are ready to defend the Rights & Liberties of the United States of America, against Great Britain or any other Enemies to the Freedom and Independence of America, whether internal or external; that we despise a Neutrality in the present contest, holding as an indisputable truth, those that are not for us, are against us.

3d Resolved, That the Committee send the proceedings of this Meeting together with said Letter and Representation, to the Committees of the other Plantations west of us as far as Frenchmans-bay, desiring to know their determination on the matter.

4th Resolved, That the Committee be desired to prepare a Letter to be sent to his Excellency the Governor, and that the same be laid before this meeting at the adjournment for approbation.

5th Resolved, That the Committee be desired to wait on the Commanding Officer of this department, with a copy of the proceedings of this Meeting, and consult with him what measures is best to be taken for the safety of this place.

The meeting was then adjourned to the 10th of April next.

April 10th The Inhabitants met according to adjournment, when the Committee presented the meeting with the copy of a Letter which they had prepared, which being distinctly read and duly considered,— Resolved that the same be accepted, and that the Committee be directed to sign the same, and forward to his Excellency forthwith.

Attest Wm Tupper Clerk

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of Machias on the 29th of March 1781 and continued by adjournment to the 10th day of April.

The Committee according to order, presented the following Letter, which was approv'd, and the Committee was directed to sign the same and forward to his Excellency the Governour forthwith, together with the other papers.

May it please your Excellency,

Letter of Committee.

When the peace and safety of a State is disturbed, by persons endeavouring to make innovations therein — when any particular person or persons evince a disposition inimical to the Laws of their Country; and in time of War, are using their utmost endeavours to open a Trade with the Enemy; lulling the people asleep by various acts, in order to make them stand Neuter in the contest; when such measures are pursuing, it is the duty of every good subject, to awaken their Countrymen to a sense of the danger — drag the offender to justice, and preserve the freedom of the State.

With this view, the Inhabitants of Machias beg leave to inform your Excellency, that similar measures have been in contemplation for some time past, and there has not been wanting in our Neighbourhood, those who have endeavoured to carry them into execution. A certain Francis Shaw of Gouldsboro', (who is now, and has been for five years last past, second Major of the sixth Regiment of Militia in this County) lately sent a Letter to Stephen Jones Esqr of this place, who was then Chairman of the Committee, inclosing a paper, called a Representation of the Inhabitants living between the Rivers Penobscot & St Croix, "addressed to your Excellency, the hon^{ble} the Senate & the hon^{ble} House of Representatives," desiring our concurrence therein; which paper makes many complaints of grievances which the Inhabitants of this Eastern Country have experienced, and to which they yet remain obnoxious, by reason of their adherence to the

Independence of America; it also contains other matters equally absurd; and concludes by praying your Excellency and honors to sett off the Inhabitants therein mentioned, to remain Neuter. "With a view as we conceive to be in a situation to trade more openly with the enemy, Said Francis Shaw, also in his said Letter holds up to us the Idea, that even your Excellency had been consulted, and approved said plan! that Government was unable or unwilling any longer to support us, therefore we had an undoubted right to take such measures as we should judge proper!

Said Letter and paper being laid before the Inhabitants, after consideration thereon, at a very full meeting, they unanimously came into the Resolutions inclosed. We herewith send your Excellency a Copy of said Letter and of the paper which accompanied it, not doubting but your Excellency will take such measures as will not only frustrate the designs of our Enemies, but deter others from following such counsel as must end in their own destruction. We have no doubts of the good disposition of your Excellency and the other branches of Government toward us; we have often experienced your bounty and care, without which, we should be now groaning under that Tyranny, which our internal enemies are now striving to bring on us, under the specious pretext of Neutrality. We therefore hope we shall not now be given up for a prey, but that our political fathers will yet continue to protect us, and animate us still to hold out, and perservere in the defence of the Liberties to which we are intitled, and untill the Independence of America shall be acknowledged by our Enemies.

We have undoubted intelligence that our Enemies are determined to take off some of the principal persons among us, most obnoxious to them (which may easily be done) thinking by that means to drive us into measures to which they have in vain endeavoured to allure us. Our coasts are daily in-

fested by the numerous Privateers of the Enemy which rendezvous at Bagwaduce; and we have too much reason to believe a correspondence is kept up by some persons in our Neighbourhood, most contiguous to the enemy, namely Col° Nathan Jones and the said Francis Shaw of Gouldsborough, and William Nickells of Narraguagus. Capt Daniel Sullivan, commander of the Company of Militia at Frenchmans-bay was lately taken out of his bed and carried to Bagwaduce, his house with that next to it, burned by a party from that place, because he was forward in opposing their plans; by which some of our friends are disheartned; and the enemy suppose if they can by any means become masters of this place, they will all between this place and Bagwaduce, fall in with them; which if so, will give them the Lumber Trade, of which they stand in much need, and divest the Commonwealth of all territory East of Penobscot, being near one Hundred miles sea coast. In order to frustrate their plans, permit us to point out some measures, which in our opinion will curb their insolence and establish our safety. Let one Company of Men be stationed at Frenchmans-bay, two Companies at this place, and two or three Vessells of force cruize the shore, this, to gether with the Militia, would put our enemies out of all hopes of reducing us, encourage our friends, and confirm those more contiguous to the enemy who may be wavering, it would also put a stop to persons going to and from Bagwaduce and Nova Scotia, which it is not at present in our power to prevent. Permit us also to add.

The Inhabitants of this Commonwealth, East of Union River, were so highly pleased with the Election of your Excellency to the first Office in our Commonwealth, that they thought it their duty to express their entire complacency in our chief Magistrate, and their grateful sense of the divine favour, in granting us one of ourselves, one of the first in the glorious cause of freedom, and one in our apprehension, so

well qualified to rule over us,—in a humble and cordial address. That address received the approbation of the different Towns in this district, and was signed by all the Committees by order of their respective Towns; but notwithstanding all our precaution, it was unhappily preferred, as we are informed, by a suspected person, namely Col° Nathan Jones above mentioned, from whence your Excellency might possibly be induced to view it as the sycophantic production of a few designing men, rather than the genuine feelings and sentiments of a faithful and brave people; in which agreeable point of light, your Excellency undoubtedly may & ought to view it.

Your Excellency may rely upon the affection and fidelity of the Inhabitants of these Plantations in general, notwithstanding all their present difficulties; and that they will exert themselves to the utmost, against all the enemies of the peace and Independence of the United States of America. We therefore humbly request that your Excellency and the Honble the General Court will be pleased in their wonted goodness and generosity to grant us as expeditiously as possible, such aid and assistance as may be necessary to enable us to take proper measures to avert the designs of our Enemies.

Stephen Smith Chairman

By order of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection & Safety

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr Governor and Commander in chief of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Deposition of Jonas Farnsworth.

The Deposition of Jonas Farnsworth of Machias, of Lawful age, testifies and saith, that on the twenty first of last Month, being at Narraguagus, in Company with Col° Alex^r

Campbell, he informed me, that Col° Nathan Jones and Capt Wm Nickels were gone to Bagwaduce after a small Schooner they had taken from there a few days before and was carried to said place.— The deponant having business with Capt Nickels, and walking by his house in company with said Col° Campbell, we both went in and enquired whither Capt Nickels was returned home, we was informed he was not returned. We went about one mile further to Capt Joseph Wallis's where we tarried that night; in the evening was informed Capt Nickels was returned home; in the morning Capt Nickels came to Capt Wallis's, where the deponant heard Col° Campbell ask Capt Nickels the following questions.

What news at Bagwaduce? Capt Nickels answered he had seen several old acquaintance there, and named Capt Danl Sullivan, who had been taken a few days before and carried there, also that Brigadier Wadsworth was used very genteely, also they were fitting out Privateers, One of eight guns, another of ten guns would sail soon, & three more smaller, and he expected they would take almost everything that came along shore; he further said a Small Privateer Schooner arrived their immediately from Boston, brought in by twenty five prisoners that broke out of one of the Guard Ships & stole said Schooner; he further said, there had not been any other of our Vessells carried in their lately. Col° Campbell asked him if they did not want him to take the oath at Bagwaduce; Capt Nickels answered, they never mentioned one word about an Oath to him. Col° Campbell further asked Capt Nickels if he had got his Vessell; Capt Nickels answered he had got her by paying John Long Twenty five pounds Currency, and that himself and Col° Nathan Jones, who went with him to Bagwaduce, was used very well by Col° Campbell of Bagwaduce; he also said that Mr Pagan & others had moved from New York to Bagwaduce, that they were very glad to get from N York being tired of

doing duty. There was several other questions asked him concerning news, to which Capt Nickels answered he did not hear a great deal of news, and he should not tell all he did hear; and that Capt Danl Sullivan was to be sent to New York in a few days, & further saith not.

Jonas Farnsworth.

Lincoln Ss. Machias April 11th 1781

Then Jonas Farnsworth personally appeared and made Oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed, taken at the request of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection & Safety of this place. Before me

Stephen Jones Jus. Pacis.

A Copy of Letter of Frances Shaw.

To his Excell^{y} the Governor, The Honble His Council, The Honble the Senate & The Honble the House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts = Setting at Boston in said Common Wealth, the Representation of the Inhabitants of all the Tract of Land, lying & being on & between the Rivers Penobscott & St Croix inclusive, being more than One Hundred Miles Sea Coast Sets forth & Shews.—

That by Excessive Fatigue & Unremitted hardships, they have Acquired large & Convenient Possessions on the said Eastern Shore, which they Intirely Depend on, as well for the present as the future support of themselves & Familys, not only the Conveniencies but even the Necessarys of life being cut off, every Source of Receiving Subsistance being at least uncertain, not to Describe the Distruction of our Mills, Masts & large Quantitys of Lumber, Built & procured at Great Expence & Trouble Previous to the Commencement of Hostillitys, in Particular our Estates are lay'd Waste in

General & are by Nature more Especially in their present Infantile State Exposed to the Depredations of both the Belligerent Powers, Devastation & Plunder have been carried into Extreme Effect by both sides, our Wives & Children have Suffer'd all the Horrors of an Attack, from Men unfeeling & barbarous, our Dwelling-Houses been surrounded by an unmerciful Banditti Guided only by the hopes, of Plunder & unawed by Opposition, they have even enter'd our Peaceful Abodes once Sacred even from Intrusion & there committed Cruelties which wou'd enliven the Cheek of the untutered Savage with a Blush, whilst on the other hand such of our property as was Moveable has been taken and Converted to the use of some of the Inhabitants of your Common Wealth and for the Recovery of the same if Redress can Possibly be procured by seeing Attorneys & Journeying to & fro' Independent of the Neglect of our Business, we must Expend as much as we have lost, We have as Repeatedly Petition'd the former Government of Massachusetts Bay, since the Revolution for Protection & Support, as that Government did the Kingdom of Great Britain, for Redress of Grievances, Previous to the Commencement of Hostilities, and we feel unhappy to say with as little Effect, there being late Instances of Plunder & Devastation together with the addition[1] Grievance of the Declaration of Law Martial in our Confines, helpless & Consider'd Inimical by both Parties have Tended to Distress & Starve & make our present Situation unsufferable and by the most hardy Race of Mankind insupportable, we had far Rather Retreat to the Desart & Depend for our subsistance on the uncertainty of the Chace & Encounter by Compact the Wolf & the Bear than Extend our present Prospects to the Production of an Hour. Such may it please your Excellency & Honours are the Sufferings of a People who Alternately Hunt the Forrest & Till the Ground, who find support by the morning Trace at one Season and the

sweat of the Brow at another, a People which the Greatest Inhumanities that ever Disgraced Civilized Nations, have Roused to Resentment & produced determinations Characteristic of Men, whose Possessions wou'd Swallow up the Dignified Principalities of Germany, it is unnecessary to Reason Respecting the Rights of Nations, the Arguments are incontestable they are founded on the Laws of Nature & Govern the Secret Springs of Man's own Conscience, they are as Glaring as the Western Sun Beam & can be found, tho' not refuted without the fine Spun Aid of Metiphysicks, to Repeat that we are Friendly to the cause of the United States wou'd be like Burning Tapers at Noon day to Assist the Sun in inlightning the world, We have Discover'd our Attachment by the Exposal & Loss of our lives, the Sufferings of our Familys, & the Ruin of our Fortunes We are Still ready to Appear in the cause of Virtue & Mankind provided we cou'd either live like Friends or Dye like Enemies, but the most that can be Expected, of a People in Pursuit of one Common Advantage is to bear an Equality of Suffering & each has an Indisputable Right to Share the Immunities & Privileges of the State in Common with his Neighbour, That Allegience & protection are Reciprocal, is so well Establish'd, they are so Interwoven together & so Dependant on each other that a seperate Existance wou'd be a Solecism, the Government of Massachusetts (from what cause is totally Immaterial,) have Refused or Neglected to give Protection to us the said Inhabitants in Return for our Allegiance, so that in Justice to our selves, our Familys, & Posterity founded on the Universal Concurrance of Nations we are constrained to Ask of your Excellency & Honours, an Act of Neutrallity for all the Inhabitants, living on the said Tracts, that we may be able to protect ourselves without being Consider'd a Party in a Contest, the Burthen of which we have hitherto so unequally Born, We not only wish to Receive the Consent of the

Governm^{t} of Massachusetts but Shall ever Esteem ourselves happy in a Coincidence of their Opinion.

Among the many causes which Instigate this Request, the want of Personal Protection & Security of Property are the Principle, But when we consider the sure Destruction of a People, Compressed between Two Potent contending Powers, by an Apparent Connection with one unable to Protect them (for we will not suppose the Commonwealth unwilling) and the Safety & Security of the Same Apparent Connection being thrown off and the Many Advantages which must Inevitably Arise to your Common Wealth, from the Encrease of Lands before mention'd we think that our Request will not have a Desenting Voice, for our Attachm^{t} as such to the Country from whence we Sprang that an Advantage in part must be advantageous to the whole In Support of the foregoing Representations, we have hereunto Subscribed our Names for ourselves & by order & in behalf of the Inhabitants of our Respective Towns this day of One Thousand Seven Hund^{d} & Eighty one. This may certifie that the foregoing is the paper inclosed in a Letter I received from Francis Shaw, dated March 17th 1781

p^{r} Stephen Jones

This is a true copy of the Original.

Attest J. Noble Shannon Cle^{r} of Comm.

Letter of Francis Shaw to Governor and Council.

Boston 3^{d} May 1781

May it Please your Excellency and Honours,

At the Commencement of this unhappy War, I was in Commission under the former Goverment which I as readily Resigned as any other Officer, soon after I Received a Captains Commission under the Honble Congress at Cambridge

to Guard the Sea coast, I raised my Men and did my duty (at least to the Approbation of that Honble Body) soon after, at the New Arrangment of the Militia I was appointed a Major, and have ever Endeavoured to do my duty in that Station, early in the Year 1776 when our Eastern Country was unprotected, and the Inhabitants uneasey, Expecting the Savage hourly to Destroy them, Capt Smith & myself Secretly sent & procured a Number of the Cheifs of the Different Tribes, and at my own Expence fitted, maned & Victualed a Vessel, and brought them to the Honble Court then at Watertown, where they entred into a Treaty of Peace & Freindship with them, it would be Tedious At this Time to Relate how often, and on how many occaisions, I have raised & supplyed Men for the service of my Country, thro' I think I may be allowed to say as often as any Man within the bounds of the sixth Regiment in the County of Lincoln, I have had my Enimies as well as other Men, and after full Enquirey was made into my Conduct by the Honble Court at Watertown, it was declared so much in my favour as to put my Enemies to Shame, My Muster Rools were ever Liable to the Inspection of the most Inveterett of them, and alltho' they could never find any Fraude in them, (By your Excell^{y} & Honors permission) I shall shew you that some of my Successors in office, who are now my Greatest Enemies, & pretend to be the Greatest Freinds to the Country, have made up False Rools, sworn to them I Received their Money. At the Time the Brittish Troops arrived at Bagaduce I was prisoner at Nova Scotia, on my Return I was called on and did my duty as before, some Little Time after having some Difference with Col^{o} Allan, he and a few others, who he has endeavour'd to support at the Public Expence, have been Endeavouring to hurt Me both in Charecter & Estate, by Demanding my Provisions, preventing my Mills from Sawing &c &^{c} however I Am happy to think that I have a Large Majority in

my favour in that Country, and those who are as well Wishers to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as His,—I have for several Years been a Member & most of the Time Chairman of the Committee of Gouldsborough, and I flatter myself that our Conduct has been as Consistant as any in that Country, and altho' we Lay more Exposed to the Depradations of the Enemy than many of them, yet we have ever been as ready to Assist with our Persons and Property in Defence of America as any of them— After being absent Six Months I returned home the 26th Feby last, the Morning before my arrival, the Enemy had been to Frenchmans Bay destroyed Captns Sullivan & Beans Houses, & carried off Sullivan prisoner unprotected as we were then, and are Now, the whole Country was in great Confusion & Distress, not knowing how soon the Enemy might return & destroy the Rest, French mans Bay was for sending Immediately to Bagaduce, and applyed to Gouldsborough to join them, I opposed it in Committee (a Number of other Inhabitants present,) as the Town was just Notified of their Annual March Meeting, but was overpowered on the Argument that Delays were Dangerous, as the Enemy had Threatned further Devastation, our Town was accordingly called togeather earlyer than was first Intended, I think on the 9th March, about the same Time Frenchmans Bay & Narraguagus Meet, when they came to a Unanimous Resolve, Nearly to the following purport, "that a Committee be appointed to Confer with the Committees of the other Towns, to draw up a proper Representation to the Honble the Legeslature of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Commanding Officer at Bagaduce, Requesting that they would restrain their privateers and Armed parties from Committing Depradations on this Shore, as we find we are unable to defend ourselves, or support our Familys without Trade & Commerce, therefore we think we ought to be Considered in a Neutral State unmolested by either of the

Contending powers" accordingly a Representation was drawn up to the Honble The Legeslature of this Commonwealth, and I beleive approved off by Frenchmans Bay, Gouldsborough, Number Four & Narraguagus, before I left Home on the 23^d March last, if any Representation has been Drawn up to the Commander at Bagaduce it is unknown to Me, Whenever I Reflect on thier Distressed Situation in General, but more Especially on my own Family and Connections I am Led almost to Dispair, but with double Concern I hear that some of the persons whoes very Existance has, and does depend on the supplys I may be able to carry to them, Endeavouring to deprive Me of that oppertunity, by holding up my Charecter to the Public as Inimical — For several days past I have been Informed that there was a Number of papers against Me, before the Committee of this Town, the Honble House &c I have ever wished to be heard on the Subject, Conscious that my own Heart could not Condemn Me, with being unFreindly to the Cause of America, I am happy to hear that a Summons is Issued for my Appearance before your Excellency & Honors on the Morrow, tho' I could have wished it to have Come in another Chaniel than the Sherif, but Submit the Matter to your Excellency & Honors better Judgement, I have not yet seen the Sherif, but shall do myself the Honor to wait on your Excellency & Honors at the Hour appointed, when I flatter myself, from your Excell^y & Honors known Candor, I shall not only be Acquited of being an Enemy to my Country, but Esteemed a Freind to the Libertys of America in General as well as the Inhabitants of the Eastern part of this Commonwealth — I have the Honor to be with much Respect your Excellency & Honors Most Obed^t Humble Servt

Fra: Shaw ^Jr

To his Excellency the Governor & Honble His Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Petition of Nath. Silsbee.

To the Honble Senate and House of Representatives for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled —

The Petition of Nathaniel Silsbee of Salem in the county of Essex Humbly shews ¶ That whereas the General Court aforesaid by certain Resolves made in the year 1779, authorizd and impower'd the late Board of War to contract for and engage certain private armd vessells to take part in an expedition against the enemy at Penobscott, in pursuance of which resolve the said Board contracted with Bartholomew Putnam of Salem merchant and others owners of the Ship Hunter burthen about one hundred and sixty tons and mounting eighteen carriage guns to fitt out and prepare said ship for the said service, which accordingly at great expense was fitted for the Sea, and sailed on said expedition to Penobscott where she was destroy'd, whereupon the said owners according to their contract with said Board were intitled to receive of the then State of Massachusetts Bay, the sum of one hundred & fifteen thousand pounds — Your Petitioner in behalf of himself and the other owners humbly represents That placing the highest confidence in Government security they expected an immediate recompence for their loss, but as the funds have been hitherto so incumberd with publick charges, they have been compelled to the great detriment of their business to lose the use of their money — they are now happy to observe that Government have resumed their credit; and discover a disposition equitably to discharge their debts, other persons in the same predicament have received part of their debts, and as your Petitioners were at a peculiar expence in furnishing all their stores and rigging without any assistance from Government they hope for a similar indulgence — they are willing to loan a part to the treasurer taking his

notes & security for payment, and do otherwise in the Premises as this Honble Court or a Committee by them appointed shall think just & reasonable and as in duty bound will ever pray

Nath^{el} Silsbee

Resolve Relating to Bounties.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In house of Representatives May 5th 1781

On the Memorial of John Frost Esqr & others in behalf of the several Towns & Plantations in the Counties of York Cumberland & Lincoln

Resolved that in the Assessment of the Bounties given to the Soldiers raised within this Commonwealth to serve Six Months pursuant to a Resolve of the General Court passed the 5th day of June 1780 & also the Bounties given to the Soldiers raised to serve Three Months in pursuance of a Resolve of said Court passed the 22nd day of June 1780 the several Towns & Plantations in the Counties of Cumberland & Lincoln be entirely exempted from any proportion of said Assessment in the Tax to be granted for that purpose

And it is further Resolved that the several Towns & Plantations in the County of York shall be assessed in the same proportion & no greater than they were severally called upon & directed by said Resolve to furnish Soldiers for the Six & Three Months Service when compard to other Towns in the Commonwealth in Consideration that the several Towns & Plantations in said Counties furnished all the Soldiers for the Defence of that part of the Commonwealth & paid them their Bounties for that Service out of their own Pockets excepting Thirty Pounds in old Continental Currency allowed & paid to each Soldier out of the publick Treasury

And it is further Resolved that the several Towns & Plantations in the Three Counties aforesaid shall be assessed in the said Tax in proportion as they stand in the Valuation compared one with another the Sum of Two Hundred & Forty Pounds in Gold or Silver or an equivalent in Bill of Credit being the Amount of the Bounties paid out of the publick Treasury to the Soldiers who engaged to serve in Defence of the eastern Country the last year. any former Resolve of the General Court to the Contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 5th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolves Relating to Defence Eastern Parts.

The Committee of both Houses on a letter from Colo Allen of Machias & another from Colo Wheaton of St Georges & the papers accompanying report the following Resolves

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May 8th 1781

Resolved, that one of the Armed Vessels ordered by a resolve of ye 24th April ulto to cruise for the defence of the Eastern parts of this State be immediately dispatched with 30 — barrels of Beef & Pork, & 30 — barrels of Flour for the relief of the Garrison at Machias. ¶ And it is also resolved that one Company of Seventy Men, Officers included, in addition to sixty five Matrosses already ordered be raised in the Eastern part of the County of Lincoln by voluntary Inlistment to serve for the term of twelve months from the first day of May instant, unless sooner regularly discharged, for

the defence of that part of the State; to be directed & posted from time to time by the Commanding Officer of that department in such manner as shall appear most for the security & defence of that part of the Common Wealth. ¶ And it is further resolved that the pay of s^d^ men shall be ten silver dollars, or bills of Credit equivalent according to the Current Exchange, per Kalender month, to each private & to each Sargent Twelve dollars to each Corporal Drum & Fife Eleven Dollars as afors^d^ the Commissioned Officers to be on Continental Establishment. ¶ And for the immediate relief & defence of that part of the Eastern Country between Kennebeck & Penobscott Rivers ¶ Resolved, that the Governor be & he hereby is requested to order from the militia in that part of the Country one or more Companies of men for the defence of the parts adjacent to Penobscott Sound, till they can be relieved by the men ordered to be inlisted by a Resolve of the 24 April last: And also that he order a suitable quantity of the provision & ammunition already sent forward to the eastward for the supply of s^d^ Detachment; And further that he direct the Officer appointed to take the Command of the men ordered to be raised by Inlistment forthwith to take the Command of the Department. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that the pay of the aforesaid Detachment be the same as that of the men ordered to be raised by Inlistment by a Resolve of the 24 April last. ¶ And whereas the local situation of the County of Lincoln; its remoteness from the seat of Government; the contiguity of the Enemy, & other circumstances attending said County, under the ordinary execution of Law ineffectual for its security & good management, therefore ¶ Resolved that the Committees of Correspondence Inspection & Safety in said County be, & they hereby are authorized & impowered with the advice of the Commanding Officers of the American Troops in said County, when it can be obtained, & without when it cannot, to apprehend & secure

any person or persons whose enlargement may to them appear dangerous to this Common Wealth, or promotive of the Enemy's Interest: And if it shall at any time appear expedient to any of the Committees aforesaid, & the Commanding Officers shall advise to it, to send any person by them apprehended to Boston; they shall at the same time forward, the Evidence against s^d^ persons reduced to writing, which written Evidence authenticated by the Committee, shall be received as valid in Boston, and shall be deemed effectual further to secure said Person or Persons, provided the charges supported thereby shall appear sufficient reason for their Confinement. ¶ And it is Resolved, that no Committee or Commanding officer shall be subject to any suit or prosecution for their doings pursuant to the foregoing resolve.

Read & sent down

Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives May 10th 1781

Read & accepted as taken into a new draught—

Sent up for Concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 10th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt^

Genl Wadsworth to Jno. Hopkins Esq.

Bagaduce Fort George 8th May 1781

Sir:

In mine of the 19th Ulto by way of Falmouth, I wrote to you requesting that You would procure of the State, Money for my Subsistance whilst a Prisoner, & Suggesting a Proposal for the Exchange of my self or Major Burton or both & the Paroling Messrs Stocgdon & McNabb &c &c. Having now a direct Oppt^y^ by a Cartel which I am inform'd is Setting

off for Boston, I must renew my request & desire that you would send me what you Shall procure on my Acc^{t} by the return of this Cartel & also let us know what Prospect there is of our Exchange.— There is great Complaint here of the Ill Treatment of Prisoners in Boston, both officers & privates, that Officers are unsuitably confin'd on board the prison Ship & that the whole are very much Starv'd, particularly Mr Long taken in the Sloop Industry, Capt Bell, who sends word that he has no Allowance of Provision at all & that he is closely imprison'd & In Irons in Salem Goal. &c &c As I know that this Treatment is very different from the Usage of the State, & particularly contrary to your Disposition I can heartily wish that if there is anything of the kind that has escap'd yours or the Observation of the State, that on examination, it may be rectified, or at any rate that the whole matter may be set in a fair Light, which may prevent the addition of Bitterness to the natural Calamities of War. I could also wish that Mr Long might be exchang'd for a Suitable person. ¶ "Apropos" of the Treatment of Prisoners I will give you just the State of my own & Major Burton's Confinement here; We have a good comfortable room in the back side of the Officer's Barracks within the Fort with good Beds & Bedding, Firewood, candles & Utencils for the room, the Windows Barr'd & Sentries at the Door, We are each allow'd one ration, which being turn'd into a Family (& an over plus to be paid in money,) a very good fare is daily brot us by the Servant allotted to wait on the room. We also purchase what ever else we may chuse. The Circumstances of the Place does not admit of our being parol'd on the Peninsula, but we daily walk on the Parade within the Fort for the Sake of taking the Air, where the Officer of the Guard generally Attends Us, with Sentries at a proper Distance. Our Confinement is much alleviated by the frequent calling in of most of the Gentlemen of the Garrison in a Sociable

Way — You have it.—I have mentioned these particulars on purpose to cultivate a reciprocity of good Offices ever to be desir'd between contending Powers, & if every one was careful to acknowledge the Conveniences which they do receive & as careful not to exagerate the unavoidable Inconveniences they Sometimes suffer it would prevent much of that bitter Animosity which Serves only to the Misery of Individuals. ¶ If you obtain money for me, & it is allowable, desire you to send me six gallons Wine of a good Quallity & as many Bushels Oysters by this Conveyance Major Burton hopes for a return from you — We are both anxious to be exchanged. ¶ I am Sir your most humble Servt

P. Wadsworth

Jno Hopkins Esqr D C G P

Superscribed: John Hopkins Esqr D C Genl Prisoners — Boston —

J Allan to Gov Hancock.

On Board the La Estre at the mouth of Machias River

May 9th 1781

Sir

I have but just time to Acknowledge the receipt of your favour By Mr Avery, as allso the Articles By the Neashquowoit for the use of this Garrison — I am very sorry I am Compelled to Acquaint you Again that there is not the Least Appearance that any men Can Be raised on the Condition mentioned, In Consequence this Post is Intirely Destitute of any Defence & Support, but what Can Be Gote Voluntarily from the Country, which at present is very difficult as the Season is on for Cultivating the Land — The Bearer Capt Chas Le Perouse, who Convey'd the Schooner & others down here has Truely Acted Like a friend to America. His Complisence, Humanity & the Trouble he has taken, is be-

yond what I can Express. Bent Intirely upon doing service to the United States — We have been waiting at the mouth of the Harbour these Two Days to Go to Passamaquody, that the Indians might have An Opp^{t} to see a French man of War — but the wind Continuing Contrary we Are Obliged to Leave the Frigate this morning, as the Capt^{s} Time is up that he must be going Back —

With the Vessell Goes Lieut Street & seven private men Prisoners — Belonging to the British American Families, who were taken By Captain Smith Cruising along shore in a small Boat — I must beg that these men may be taken the Greatest Care of Even to have them detain'd as long as possible their knowledge of this river, their Zeal for Britain, and their Design to hurt all they Can the Inhabitants of this District as well as along shore, Compells me to pray you to have them secured properly — ¶ As by not having Troops here for the protection of the Port I find I can be of Little Service to the United States, in my Continuing at the post. I shall move to Passamaquody for the Care of the Indians, As I presume Duty will be done at Machias better By the Militia Officers. After setleing matters I propose going westward for the settlement of the business of the department — ¶ Excuse my situation on Board, as I am in a hurry in getting ashore I am with my Great respect y^{r} very hb^{l} Sv^{t}

J Allan

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 11th 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Col^{o} Little, Col^{o} Coffin & Col^{o} Thacher with such as the hon Senate shall join be a Committee to consider of this Letter & report thereon —

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Spk^{r}

In Senate May 11th 1781 —

Read & Concurred & Samuel Niles & John Pitts Esqrs are joined.

Jer: Powell Presidt

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May 11th 1781

The Committee appointed on the Letter of Colo John Allen of Machias, report that the provision for men & supplies for the support of that Post already made by this Court is in the opinion of this Committee all that is expedient to be done at present And also that the Prisoners refer'd to in sd letter are this day committed to Goal in the town of Boston by order of the Governor

Saml Niles pr Order

Sent down for Concurrence

Read & Accepted

Jer Powell Presidt

Resolve on Petition of Jos. McLellan.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

May 15th 1781

To the Honble the Senate & the Honble House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of Joseph McLellan for himself and the other Owners of the Ship humbly shews. ¶ That your Petitioner with the other Owners of said Ship have a Prospect of making a very advantageous Voyage if they could have Permission to carry six or eight Masts from Twenty Inches & downwards to some French or Spanish Port in the West Indies. That the Town of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland where said Ship is owned has during this unhappy War suffered very greatly, has lost all their Vessels, (this Ship only excepted), that uses any foreign Trade, and

if said Ship should make a successful Voyage the great Benefit arising from it would enable the aforesaid Town to pay their respective Taxes — Your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honors to grant Permission for Shipping the above said Masts.

And as in Duty bound shall ever pray

Joseph Mclellan

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May ye 15th 1781

Resolve on the Petition of Jos McLellen Praying for Liberty to export eight Masts from the Port of Falmouth, in the County of Cumberland of Twenty Inches & downwards to Some French or Spanish Port — Resolved that the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that the Naval officer of the Port of Falmouth be & he hereby is directed to clear out said Eight Masts, any law or Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

In the House of Representatives May 19th 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of Sprague & Ward.

To The Honorable Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of the Subscribers sheweth That early in the present Contest your Petitioners awarded largely of their Interest & have ever since done all in their power to assist Government more especially in the Penobscot Expedition

when they were concerned in Three Ships which were taken into that service two of which were lost, by which they sustained great damage & have not as yet had any compensation, (altho the General Court then assembled solemnly engaged that in case of loss they shou'd be indemnified) nor wou'd they at present (knowing in some measure the Distresses of the Common Wealth) trouble your Honors with any request were it not that they are exceedingly distressed for want of means to enable them to obtain a support for themselves & Famalies, as they have lately sustained great and extraordinary Losses by which they are deprived of allmost all their Trading Stocks.— They therefore most earnestly pray that this Court wou'd take their case into their consideration & afford them such Relief as in their wisdom they shall think fit and as in duty bound will ever pray

Joseph Sprague
Samuel Ward

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 15th 1781

On the petition of Joseph Sprague & Samuel Ward, praying for some relief from this Court, on acct of large Sums of Money due to them for Ships lost on the Penobscot expedition, for reasons set forth in their Petition — ¶ Resolved, That on accot of the peculiar circumstances attending the Petitioners, occasioned by the Losses they met with at Penobscot, & since at St Eustatia, there be allowed sd Petitioners the sum of Five hundred pounds in Specie, or bills of Credit equivalent thereto, & that the Governor with advice of Council, be requested to grant his Warrant on the Treasurer for the same, on condition that sd Petitioners Jointly Loan to Government, the amount of Four thousand pounds in specie, or Government Securities they may have in their hands, agreable to

the Supply Bill for borrowing £800,000, passed this session—they to be accountable for the same in the Settlement of their Acco^t

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 15th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

Approv'd John Hancock

W^ts drawn 7th Feby 1782

Letter Jno Hopkins to Caleb Davis.

Boston ^th16 May, 1781

Sir

I would beg leave to lay before your honor a Letter from Genl Wadsworth, were he Desires me to Apply to you. for a Sum of Money, and if procur'd to Forward it to him, by the Return of the Cartel, which is to Sail to Morrow,—

I have the Honor to be Your Honors most ob^t Servt

Jno Hopkins

The Hon^le Caleb Davis Esqr

Petition of Jeremiah Colburn.

To the Honorable the Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives in General Court Assembled, the 15th May Anno Domini 1781 —

The Petition of Jeremiah Colburn of Camden — Lieu^t Under the Command of General Wadsworth — ¶ Humbly Sheweth — That Your Petitioner was Left in Command of General Wadsworth at his Post at Camden, when your Peti-

tioner on the 24th April Last was Attack by five Brittish Officers and 75 of their Soldiers, with Two Refugees, their Pilots and took Possession of the Stores at Camden, and disarmed the Inhabitants and Drove them off, and Captivated my self and Familey — and took Possession of all my Stores and furniture with four Whale boats, and burnt and Distroyed a Flatt bottom'd Boat — the Breast Works and Platforms and all the Damage they Could do, and Carried your Petitioner of to Penobscot River, and then Granted him A Parole to Boston In order for an Exchange, Now Your Petitioner being destitute of any Support. Not having Power to make up his pay Roll untill duly Exchanged, Your Petitioner prays Your Hon^rs Would Order him Back Rations, and Subsistance Money for himself Wife & Son as has been allowed heretofore with some Money to defray his Charges Under his Unhappy Circumstances Or Order what in your Great Wisdom Shall See Meet — and Your Petitioner as In Duty bound shall Ever pray &c

Jeremiah Colburn Lieu^t Camden

May 15 — 1781 —

Resolve in Favor Jeremiah Colburn.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 17th 1781

On the Petition of Jeremiah Colburn an Officer on Parole praying for an Allowance of back Rations & subsistence money & also a grant of some money for his Expences

Resolved, That there be granted and paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to Jeremiah Colburn thirty Pounds in the new Emission in part for the wages due to him from this Commonwealth from the twenty sixth of January last and that the Commissary General be directed to pay the said Lieu^t Colburn his back Rations and his subsistance

money in Rations from the first day of April last to the sixteenth instant, he to be accountable for the same ¶ And whereas the said Jeremiah Colburn when he was captivated lost two fire Arms, a Hanger and two Cutlasses and a Cartrich Box be it further resolved that the Commissary of Ordinance be directed to deliver to Lieut Colburn one fire Arm and a Hanger taking his Receipt and he to be accountable for the same

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 18th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presidt

Approvd John Hancock

Thomaston May 1 1781

this may certifie whome it may Concern that Lieut Colburn had the Command at Cambden of the troops and Ordenance Stores When Genl Wardsworth was taken and on the 24 of April was taken prisoner by a party from Major Bagaduce

Major Wheaton Colo

Resolve in Favor Genl Wadsworth.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 18th 1781

On the Letter from Genl Wadsworth requesting money & wine ¶ Resolved That there be granted & paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth to John Hopkins Esqr Commissary of Prisoners, to be delivered to Genl Wadsworth the sum of fifteen Pounds in Silver & Gold he to be account-

able for the same, and it is further ¶ Resolved That Caleb Davis Esqr Agent for this Commonwealth be and he is hereby directed to deliver to John Hopkins Esqr aforesaid ten Gallons of Wine for the Use of Genl Wadsworth and the said Agent is directed to make return of the Value of it to the Committee for methodizing public Accounts that the same may be charged to the Account of General Wadsworth.

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 18th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Letter of Maj^{r} Osgood.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives May 19th 1781

Resolved, that, the Letter from Maj^{r} Saml Osgood of ye 8th Inst:, with the accompanying the same, together with a Receipt in s^{d} Osgoods hands, signed by Joseph Noyes, Issuing Commissary at Falmouth in the County of Cumberland, for a Sum of Money rec^{d} by s^{d} Noyes, not accounted for, be Lodged in the hands of the Committee for, Methodizing the public acco^{ts} till the further orders of ye General Court—

Sent up for concurrence

Caleb Davis Speaker

In Senate May 19th 1781

Read & Concurred

Jer: Powell Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Commission to Hon^bl Samuel Osgood Esqr

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate May 19 — 1781

Resolved that his Excellency the Governor be & he is hereby desired to grant a commission, under the great seal of the Commonwealth to the Honble Samuel Osgood Esqr authorizing him to appear and act as a delegate of this Commonwealth in the Congress of the United States, untill the first day in November next, he having been thereto elected by the joint ballot of the Senate & House of Representatives.—

Sent down for Concurrence

Jer: Powell Presi^dt

In the House of Representatives May 19th 1781

Read & concurred

Caleb Davis Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition Inhabitants in Lincoln County.

To the Honourable the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Humbly shew the Subscribers Inhabitants of tract Lying at the Head of the Township of New Bristol in the County of Lincoln and Belonging to the Government that theay Have Settled more then fifteen years ago upon the same Lands having then no Doubt but that the Government would in Consideration of the adjacent Lands being made better by their Labour givath them in their possessions and therefore humbly Relying upon the Clemency of the Government theay have Expended much time and toyl upon their new plantations but being as to town Government in a state of nature they find Great Difficulty in preserving from the hand of Rapine the fruit of their honest industry that theay have since the Commencement of the present war uniformly exerted

themselves in defence of their Country and have with in the Last Summer put their Lives and property at hazerd and undergone all the hardships necessary incidint to an invaded people in Defending those Labors which can never be of advantage to them or their families without your Honors attention to their petition —

Whereas theay most humbly pray that your honours would Consent that a township shall be Laid out their of twelve miles Square and make a grant their of to your petitioners for such Sum or on such Conditions and with such Reservations as your honors shall think to be most condusive to the publick Good and Should any part of the same be Reserved to the State the Cultivation of the Residue will soon Impress more vellew upon the part Reserved then the whole Can in any other way be made worth and as we in Duty bound Shall ever pray —

Philip Marble	Peter Butler
Daniel Scammon	Moses Butler Junior
William Springer	Nathaniel Butler
Daved Springer	Stephen Clark
John Springer Junior	Jonah West
John Springer	Stephen Handifon
Moses Butler	Benj Clark
David Hooper	

Dated att frenchmans Bay the
24 May 1781

Petition of John Bane.

To the Honourable the Senate & the Honourable the House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

Humbly Shews ¶ The petition of John Bane, that your petitioner from a sincere regard to his Country and weighing circumstances at the Commencement of Hostilities with

Britain came to a solemn determination, to hold his Life & little fortune with the many pleasant things around him as a ready sacrifice rather than submit to the Tyranny of the King of England, it is known to all the neighbourhood where he lives that he has invariably kept to his said determination — The Enemy know it, & your petitioner has been hunted as dangerous to their cause & been almost pursued to Death, His House & Barn have been destroyed by fire, and the little provision He had remaining for the Support of his family. Your petitioner having left his family & escaped as with the skin of his Teeth hope for that Assistance which your honours will see meet to Grant. Your petitioner supply'd the Troops while on duty in Frenchmans bay by the direction of Col° Campbell with 800 lb Beef 33 Bushl of Meal — 66 bushels of Potatoes & 1000 feet Boards as pr Account, which your petitioner is, now in great want of which is the principle Cause of his risquing himself to Boston. Upon his Communicating his Intentions of Coming to this Court, he was intrusted with a petition which he presents with his own, also a Proclamation of the Commanding Officer of Majorbaggaduce. Your petitioner begs the Attention of your Honours to his distresses and the Circumstances of the Towns below Baggaduce and doubts not of Relief, And as in duty bound will Ever pray.

John Bane

June 1781

Certificate in Favor John Bane.

Number 4 May 29th 1781

These may Certifie that the Subscriber being appointed to the Command of a Number of Militia And Continental Troops By Col° John Allan, for the Protection of the Inhabitants of Frenchmans bay — I Appoint the Bearer Mr John Bane to Act as Commissary of Issues for Said Troops

for the Time being: he Continued in Said Service from the 27th of October untill the 20th of December in 1780 and that During Said Service Mr Bane Supplyd out of his Own Stores 800 lb Beef, 33 Bushels of meal, 66 Busls Potatoes & Delliv^d as Rations by him to Said Troops, And that he the Said Bane was at the Expense of Baking Bread for 18 men and his kitchen improv^d as a Gard house for the Same Number of Said Troops, that he further Furnish^d one thousand of Bords, I Further Certifie that as Commanding officer Give Order for the Issuing Said Provision to Said Troops According to the Returns. that Mr Bane having his House Burn^d By the Enemy Informs me he has Lost said Returns and his appointment by me Alex: Campbell

Daniel Merit to James Avery.

Number Four 30th May 1781.—

Sr

You will please to prefer the Pettition we have committed to your care to the Governor & Council, at the same time you will use your utmost endeavours to have the Matter Comply'd with. Mr John Bane is equally concern'd in pursuing this Business with you, and we Strongly Recommend that you both Act in Conjunction.— We Rely on your Candour & good Conduct in pursuing this Affair as you are fully Acquainted with the most Minute Circumstances Respecting this Country— Wishing you a good Passage and a safe Return I am with Esteem your Friend.— By order & in behalf of the Convention Daniel Merit Moderator

N: B: You are Likewise Desired to use the utmost of your Endeavours to Obtain a Grant of the Arms & Ammunition for the Millitia as Express'd in the 5th Resolve of the Convention; a Copy of which is herewith Deliver'd you.

[to] James Avery Esqr

Resolutions of Several Eastern Towns.

At a Convention of the Committees of the several Towns East of Union River held at Col° Allexand^r Campbells Dwelling House in Number Four on the 28th day of May A: D: 1781 Present Capt: Stephen Smith Delegate for Machias, Mr Daniel Merrit, Capt: John Bucknam & Mr Richard Coffin full Committee for Pleasant River; Capt: Joseph Wallis, Capt: William Nickels & Capt: John Small S^r full Committee for Narrowguegus; Mr Terah Sprague, Mr John Yeaton, & Mr Samuel Weakfield, full Committee for Number Four; — Mr Thomas Hill & Mr Daniel Wright part of Committee for Gouldsborough; & Mr John Bane S^r in behalf of the Committee of Frenchman's Bay.— Voted as follows Viz^t

1st Voted Mr Daniel Merrit Moderator

2^d Voted — James Noonan — Clerk —

3dly Voted — Unanimously that there Shall be a Pettition Drawn & Transmitted to his Excellency the Governor & the other Branches of Legislature of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts, Setting forth the Situation of the Eastern Country.

4^thly Voted That Mr Daniel Merrit, Capt: Stephen Smith, Col° Allexand^r Campbell, Mr John Bane Sr & James Noonan be a Committee to Draw Said Pettition.

Meeting Adjourn'd 'till Tuesday 29th day of May A: D:

1781 at Eight of the Clock A: M:—

Tuesday 29th day of May A: D: 1781 Convention Met according to Adjournment, the Pettition being Read & duely Examin'd & Accepted, came into the following Resolutions. Viz^t

1st Resolved Unanimously That the said Pettition Shall be Transmitted to the Legislature of this Commonwealth as quick as may be.

2dly Voted & Resolved Unanimously That the said Pettition Shall be presented & prefer'd by Mr John Bane Sr of FrenchMan's Bay, & James Avery Esqr of Machias.

3dly Resolved That the Moderator of this Convention Shall Sign Instructions for the Proceedings of the said John Bane & James Avery.

4thly Resolved, That the Clerk of this Meeting Shall Serve the said John Bane & James Avery with a Copy of the Doings of this Meeting.

5thly Resolved, That the Legislature of this Common Wealth be Pettition'd to Grant for the Militia of the Several Districts, Eighty Stands of Arms or as many as they may think proper, Together with Three Hundred Pounds of Powder and Six Hundred Pounds of Balls.

6thly Resolved, That there Shall be a Company of Minute men, consisting of Forty Persons Raised in the several Towns & Districts.

7thly That the Committees of the several Towns Shall Publish the Resolves of Congress Respecting the Suppression of holding Correspondence with the Enemy.

8thly Resolved, That the Chairman or Moderator of this Convention shall write to Colo Foster to have his Regiment in as good order on any Immergency as the Circumstances of the Country will Admit, and that he be made Acquainted that this Convention have thought it a prudent Measure for the Security of the Country that a Minute Company out of the Militia may be Raised between Frenchmans Bay & Pleasant River inclusive, & for that purpose have made choice of Thomas Parrot of Number Four for Captain, Daniel Merrit Jr of Pleasant River for first Lieut & John Bane Jr of FrenchMan's Bay for Second Lieut to Consist of Forty Men Officers included, & Recommend that he give the Necessary orders Accordingly for the Raising said men

9thly Resolved, That no one Committee of the several Districts shall act upon any Publick matter of Importance without consulting or Informing the whole of the Committees thereof.

Continued & Adjourned to the last Tuesday in July next Ensuing to be held at Capt: Joseph Wallis's Dwelling House in Narrowguegus at Ten of the Clock A: M:

Number Four 30th May 1781.

a True Copy Attest James Noonan Clerk

Memorial of James Sullivan.

To the Honourable the Senate, and The Honourable The House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

The memorial of James Sullivan, most humbly Represents, that upon the Sixteenth Day of March last one Daniel Sullivan (a Brother to your Memorialist) & who was the Commander of a Company of Militia in the County of Lincoln, and had his residence near the Lines of the Enemy, there, was Surprized in the night Time by the Enemy — his House with all it contained reduced to ashes, and himself carried a Prisoner to New York, Whereby his Family Consisting Principally of young Children, was then rendered, and as yet remain destitute of a shelter from the Weather, and of Victuals, or clothing, and what renders their Calamity Still more distressing, and insupportable is, that they are placed in an uncultivated part of the country, where the Constant depredations of the Enemy, added to the usual Scarcity of Provisions, renders the people in their Vicinity unable to give them any Considerable relief.

Your memorialist upon application finds, that Congress, nor their Commissary of Prisoners can Exchange any one

for him, because he was not a Continental officer, and upon application to the Supreme Executive of this State, is informed, that there is an Act of the Legislature in Existence, and lately made, which puts it out of the Power of the Governor and Council to Exchange a British Subject for one of their own, although the Britian is taken by the Private force of this Common Wealth; from which Circumstances your memorialist is induced thus to Trouble your Honours, and while he feels himself distressed for the unhappy Sufferer who is the Subject of this Petition, he is Still more affected to find, that as the Exchange of Prisoners is to be conducted by the above mentioned Act, the Subjects of this State when taken are in all probability doomed to a miserable Existence in a Prison ship. an Idea so Exceeding distressing and replete with horror, will most certainly induce, every one who lives in an invaded part of the Government to make his Peace with the Enemy, or to remove himself to a place of Security; the Consequence of Either of which will be fatal to the Country —

Your memorialist is obliged further to add, that while others in that County more Cautious than the above mentioned Prisoner, Either made their Peace with the Enemy, or removed to places of safety, he was on all occasions heading the Militia in his Vicinity, to repel their hungry and vindictive outrages, and this alone could induce them, to make one of no higher rank than a Captain the sole object of an Expedition.

Upon the whole matter your Memorialist does most humbly pray, that your Honours, as an Encouragement to others to behave with similar faithfulness and bravery, and in pity to a Suffering Family would direct his Exchange to be Effected in some way or other

James Sullivan

31st of May 1781

Memorial of Plantations in Eastern Country.

To His Excellency the Governor, the Honble Senate, & Honble House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled;

The Representation of the Committees of the Several Plantations between FrenchMan's Bay & Machias inclusive—Humbly Shews—

That we apprehend it our Indispensible duty (at every opertunity) to Represent the particular Situation, & Circumstances of the Inhabitants Eastward of Major Bagwaduce, Having an Opertunity of Perusing the Different Resolves Passed by your Excellency & Honors Respecting the Security of this Country, humbly begs leave to Return our Grateful Acknowledgements for the Support Granted, as well as many others of a Similer Nature heretofore, and it is our earnest Desire that we may Conduct ourselves under our unhappy Situation becoming the True Subjects of this Common Wealth, so as ever to merrit your Excellency & Honor's approbation & Esteem, & Cordially begs leave to Assure your Excellency & Honors, that it is our full Determination to persevere in the cause of our Country untill the last Extremity. it may be Needless to enter into a Particular Detail of Matters, as your Honors are fully Sensible of our Situation, that so long as the Britains holds their Garrison at Bagwaduce, the Inhabitants Eastward are Reduced to the most Dangerous Circumstances, both in their persons & property, as well as the Publick Deprived of the advantage of a most Valuable part of the Common Wealth. Still we apprehend the Troops order'd to be Raised, properly Supported, will be Sufficient (with the exertions of the Millitia) for the present Defence of the Country, were they Raised & Ready for Duty; with this Addition, which we earnestly beg leave to Observe, That Two or Three Armed Vessels may be Ob-

tained for the purpose of Cruising this Shore, between Falmouth & Machias; & which we apprehend wou'd be of the utmost consequence towards the Security & Protection of the Country, as it may Deter Persons from holding Correspondence with the Enemy, & of consequence Discourage the Enemy from Offering that Freedom of Communication & the Lumber Trade, which they so Earnestly thirst after, & which at present we are unable to prevent, we wou'd further give it as our opinion at least one half of the Troops may be Station'd at Frenchman's Bay.— as the Inhabitants, we apprehend, are most Exposed as being Contagious to the Enemy, some of whom have severely felt the Resentment of British Tyranny & Oppression by Destruction & Burning.— That Six or Eight Whale Boats may be obtain'd & sent, will be of Essencial Service for Transporting the Troops (so Station'd at FrenchMan's Bay) from Harbour to Harbour & to Act in Conjunction with the Troops at Machias.

We cannot omit Observing further to your Excellency & Honors, that we think it will be very Difficult to Raise any men in this Country, at least a very Small proportion, & hopes your Honors may have no Dependance; but that the men may be Raised & Sent from the Westward for our Security. Upon the whole we beg leave to Rest the matter with your Excellency & Honors & Humbly pray you may take our case into your most Serious Consideration and Grant Support According to your Wonted Goodness, as Speedy, & in that way & Manner your Excellency & Honors may think fit. For any further Particulars we beg leave to refer you to Mr John Bane & James Avery Esqr on whom we rely & to whom we have given our Instructions to prefer the same.— N. B. We apprehend it may be necessary to Inform your Excellency & Honors, that the Subscribers were Conveined at the Motion & Particular Recommendation of Col^o^ John Allan, for the purpose of Communicating some matter of

Importance Respecting the Safety of the Country & are so happy as to have his Coincidence in the several Matters Expressed in the foregoing Representation.

Stephen Smith for Machias
Daniel Merit for Pleasant river
Richard Coffin
John Bucknam
William Nickels } Com^ttee^ for
John Small } Narrouguegus
Joseph Walles }

Terah Sprague } Com: for
Sam^ll^ Wakfield } Number Four
John Yeaten }

Daniel Wright } Com: for
Thomas Hills } Gouldsborough
John Bane for FrenchMan's Bay

Memorial of Eastern Towns.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in general Court assembled

April 26th 1781

The Memorial of the Representatives of the Several Towns in the Counties of York, Cumberland & Lincoln Humbly Shews that by a Resolution of the General Court passed in March 1780 Six Hundred Men were ordered to be Inlisted or detached from said Counties to serve Eight Months in Defence of that part of the Commonwealth that a Bounty of one Hundred Dollars only in old continental Currency was allowed & paid out of the publick Treasury to each Soldier who engaged in said Service & by Reason thereof the several Towns in said Counties or the Individuals thereof were obliged to advance & pay out of their own Pockets large Sums of Money as Bounties to engage the Soldiers for said service then Relying upon it that other parts of the Commonwealth would be called upon to perform similar Services

but they find that the average Price of the Bounties given by the several Towns to the Six Months & Three Months Soldiers is to pass to the Credit of the several Towns who procured them & that the Amount of the Average Price of said Bounties is to be assessed upon the Commonwealth at large in which case the several Towns in said Counties after having paid the Bounties given to the Soldiers to serve in Defence of the Eastern Country out of their own Pockets will be compelled to Contribute equally with other parts of the Commonwealth in paying the Bounties given to the said Six Months & Three Months Soldiers who were chiefly procured from the other parts of the Commonwealth which in the Opinion of your Mem^{os} is manifestly contrary to the Rules of Justice & Equality & will bring an insupportable Burden of Taxes upon said Counties Wherefore your Mem^{os} pray for such an Exemtion in the Assessment of the average Price of the Bounties given to the said Six Months & Three Months Soldiers as the Rules of Justice & Equality require or that Relief may be granted in such other way as the Court in their wisdom shall think just & reasonable & your Mem^{os} as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Ezra Taylor	Simon Frye
Jno Frost	Sol. Lombard
John Hills	Stephen Hall
Edwd Grow	Thos Cutts
Wm Lithgow	Nathl Wells
	Col^{o} Reed

Robt. Pagan to Dr. Nathaniel Coffin.

Campbell Town Penobscot 4th June 1781

Dear Sir

I send this to Dear Island in hopes of its being Convey'd To you from Thence — ¶ It's intention is To Inform you that

I have Received from your friends at Bristol Sundry articles the Effects of your Deceased Brother Francis, which I am Desir'd To Deliver To you or your order, and they are now with me Ready To be Deliver'd when you Think proper To Send for them — Altho I Should meet with an opportunity of forwarding them To you which by the way I have not the Least prospect of, yet I would by no Means Choose To Do it, as I Learn from one of our Sailors Lately a Prisoner in Falmouth, that Some Little Matters Sent from this for family use To Some of our friends, have been Siz'd and appropriated by the Captors To their own use. I am Too well acquainted with the disposition of the good People of Falmouth To Think that there are Many there who would be guilty or approve of Such unfeeling & Low Lif'd Robery, yet while that Man Can do So unpunished, I am determin'd not To put your property in his power without your orders, And as I have no Doubt you Can gett Liberty from those in power with you To Send here for the property above Mentioned, I would advise your doing So, and I am Confident General Campbell will have no objections to my Delivering it To your order — ¶ With affectionate Compliments To Mrs Coffin & all My Worthy Falmouth friends I am Dear Sir, your friend & Humble Servt

Robt Pagan

Doctor Nathaniel Coffin — Falmouth —

Petition of Selectmen of Buxton.

His Exelency the Governor Lt Governor Senate & house of Representatives For the Common Wealth of Massachusetts Bay In General Court Assembled

We the Petitioners In behalf of the Town of Buxton humbly Sheweth that we are apprehensive of a Disproportion

of Taxes by some Means or other, as evidently apears by estates of an equal value In our Neighbouring Towns, One third more at Least, is Lain upon estate of equal Value in this Town than in Scarbor° or Gorham, our next adjacent Towns, as we have often made the Comparison by Rate Bills, the error we Conceive to be in Valueation of Towns, we have hither too bore the burthen patiently as we expected a More eaquallity at the Settlement of our Last Valueation, but finding a Continueance think it doing Justice to our Constituents to Petition to authority for Relief, whose Justice we are ever willing to Submit. We Conceive the Honble Court To be perfectly Acquainted with the Punctuallity of the Town in Its Proportion of men hitherto Sent for the Relief of our Country Since the Commencement of the Present war with Britain, & that five more men Entred the Service of their Country in the Late three Year Service than the Towns proportion who Servd as faithful Soldiers in their Countrys Cause during their Term, Three of which engaged for the duration of the War, who from the Latest accounts (which is not many months past) Were In Actual Service, Two more have within this Year past engagd In the Service for the duration of the war, one of which has been a great Cost to the Town, and in Consequence of the Resolve of Court of the 2^d^ Decem^r^ Last we have Raised Seven more & Sent forward to the Army Nine being our proportion According to the Schedule, If the above mentioned Circumstances Togather with Past deficiencies of other towns Respecting their proportion of men Can in any way Mittigate our Deficiency which is but two, we willingly Leave it with Authority to determine. In behalf of the Town of Buxten

Jn° Woodman
Jacob Bradbury } Select Men
John Smith

Buxton 6th June 1781

Report on Exchange of Sullivan.

Commonwealth Massachusetts

In House Representives June 9, 1781

The Committee on the Memorial of James Sullivan Esqr ask Leave to Report their Oppinion that it is not in the Power of this Court to Effect the Exchange of S^{d} Sullivans Brother Now Prisoner in New York in a Regular Way — But Recomend to S^{d} James Sullivan Esqr to Appley to the Marean Board that they would Send a Flag to New York With a Person of Equal Rank with Capt Sullivan (the Prisoner) for his Exchange

read & accepted

Resolve in Favor Town of Buxton.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives June 11 1781

Resolved that the Committee of Supplies be & here by are directed to deliver to Jacob Bradbury representative of the Town of Buxton five Blankets for the use of four Soldiers Inlisted from s^{d} Town of Buxton & one soldier Inlisted from the Town of Peperelborough for three years —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 12th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor John Magray.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives June 11, 1781

On the Petition of John Magray of Yarmouth in the Province of Nova Scotia seting forth that his two mast

Shallop has been seized at Marblehead, that he has been friendly to the American Cause & Prisoners, praying that said Shallop may be restored and that he may have a permit to go with her to Yarmouth & return to this market with fish &c

Resolved that the prayer of the Petition be so far granted that it be & hereby is recommended to the Naval Officer at Marblehead to restore s^d^ Shallop to the s^d^ John Magray, his paying the Charges that may have arisen, and that he have leave to proceed with her to Yarmouth in Nova Scotia, carrying with him no Articles except Necessary Stores for the Voyage, and that he do not return with any effects to this Commonwealth except he bring with him his family to remain an Inhabitant. And the Commanders of All Armed Vessels and others belonging to this Commonwealth are hereby directed to suffer s^d^ Magray to pass with his Shallop unmolested, and it is hereby recommended to the Commanders of all Vessels belonging to the United States or any of them to let the s^d^ Magray pass as aforsaid without hindrance

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 12th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^dt^

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition in Behalf of Towns of Brunswick and Harpswell.

To the Honble the Senate and Honble House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled at Boston

The Petition of Samuel Dunkan in behalf of the Town of Brunswick, and of Isaac Snow in behalf of the Town of

Harpswell in the County of Cumberland Humbly Shews, That the Resolves of the fourth of December last requiring the said Towns to furnish their Quota of Beef for the Continental Army, did not reach them till the last day of January last, which was some time after the time was expired for furnishing the one half, and at the time when they had notice, there was no Beef to be had among them at any rate; It was also out of their Power to Advance Money in liew of said Beef, being out of Cash, neither could they hire money of any person tho.' they used their Endeavours to Obtain it.

That the said Towns have been and still are in very distressing Circumstances on Account of the Scarcity of Provisions, as well as by reason of the Enemies being so near them, so that they cannot send any thing to Market to make money of, and especially the Town of Brunswick, was so distressed that they could not but Partially Comply with the Resolve passed in September last, And now are liable to have Executions issued against the said Towns.

Your pet^r therefore humbly prays this Honble Court will be pleased to take their Case into your Compassionate consideration, and be pleased to Abate to them some part of the Beef required, and that Executions may be suspended for the present, or relieve them in such way as your Honors in your known Wisdom may see meet. And as in duty bound shall pray &c

Saml Dunkan Isaac Snow

June 12th 1781

Commonwealth of Massachussetts

In the House of Representatives June 1781

On the petition of Samuel Duncan in behalf of the Town of Brunswick, & of Isaac Snow in behalf of the Town of Harpswell in the County of Cumberland — praying that the Superintendant for purchasing beef in the Common Wealth

of Massachusetts be directed to Suspend Issuing his Executions, against the Towns of Brunswick and Harpswell for not Complying with the Resolutions of Court with Respect to furnishing their Quota of beef for the Continental Army for Reasons Sett forth in Said petition.

Resolved that the Superintendant for purchasing beef in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts be directed, to Suspend Isuing his Executions against the Towns of Brunswick & Harpswell, for not furnishing their proportion of beef for the Continental Army till the further Order of the Court.

Selectmen of Boothbay to Genl. Court.

To the Honourable the Senate & House of Representitives In General Court assembled.

May it please your Honours, The inroads and depredations almost daily Committed by the Enemy in this town last spring, wearied out the Inhabitants keeping guards by turns as our Settlement is much scattered, therefore necessity obliged us as a town to Vote twenty men to be raised, (which was immediately done, for defence of this seemingly devoted place, they were officer'd out of the Militia and Served for the term of one month, which was the time Voted for, we obliged ourselves to pay each man so serving Two pounds Eight Shillings p^{r} Month, Wages, and a Sum of two pounds Eight Shillings p^{r} Month for subsistance, not knowing the regulation provided for the Militia in such cases, and as the said men were often on different tours, it was thought best there Should be one Captn & one Lieut. who when occasion required had Seperate Commands and Could have assistance from the Inhabitants if Called upon, in case of Superiour opposition, We have sent your Honours a Roll of the Company likewise an account of the time & charge of Some

people who have been on guard in the most unfavorable Wether we had for the Season, tho it is a small proportion of time on duty mentioned in respect to what we have in reality served, yet if your honours thinks proper to allow us pay therefor it will help us to pay the Expences we were at for necessaries in the Cold & Wett, thus hoping your honors will cast a favourable glance on our performances, pardoning what we have erred in for lack of knowledge accepting our duty so far as we have done any, and grant Such help for paying the Charges above mentioned as your Wisdom Shall direct and your petitioners as in duty bound Shall ever pray

John Allen Samuel Adams } Selectmen

Boothbay June 16th 1781,

Letter Col. Allan.

Machias June 16th 1781

Sir

My last which I had the Honor of writing your Excellency was of the 7th Ultº from on board the French Frigate, the Suddenness of her Departure prevented my being so explicit as I coud wish — sence which no Certain safe opportunity has offered,— the Disappointment in the Frigates not geting to Passamequody I have greatly felt, Capt Le Peruse Intended to have given the Indians Provisions & other Presents, which wou'd have been of very Assential Service at this Time in the Alteration taken Place in the Department: — The 17th the Ship Marrs Came into the Hearbour, I requested of the Captain to Run Down to Passamequody, as it wou'd be Serviceable both in the Indian business, as well as a Check to the Illicit Trade & the Enemys Privatiers — on our arrival we were Visited by a Number of the Indians, who were much satisfy'd with the Appearence of the Ship and the Treatment

they Received,— the 22d the Marrs proceeded on her Cruize,—

I mett the Indians in Conference the 25th Acquainted them what had been done with the Department, I found a Gloom & Coldness that I had not been Accustomed with,— they signify'd that they were hardly Delt with, & that as they had left their own River they shou'd be allowed something more, — and that they were not prepared for Trade, their Time having been Devoted for the Defence of the Country — I Endeavoured to soothe them for the present, and we agreed to meet in a Short Time,— having some Necessary business I returned to Machias the 26th — The 1st Inst Dispatch'd off the Priest, allso Major Stillman to whome I gave Instructions in what meathod to Trade with the Indians, I have allso sent Lieut Delesdernier with his family to Settle Down with them — his ability and Friendship with them, I flatter myself will be of the greatest Utility The Priest I allso Propose to keep there the most of his Time,— I shall sett out myself as soon as I gete the Vessell away & Continue till I hear from the Westward — I woud allso mention that a Number of Indians which I expected from St John Six Weeks ago, are not arrived, what is the Reason I Cannot find out,— ¶ I mentioned in my last letter to your Excellency the impractability of Raising a Company of Men in this Country, add to this not any Money has Come Down nor any thing mentioned for Bounty — But as I Conceiv'd the Determination of Government to have men here, the Urgent Necessity for some persons to Assist in my business, as well as the Care of the Fort, I took upon me to Offer a Bounty of Twelve Guineas to such as woud Inlist During the War, Those to the 31st December a Suit of Cloaths — Giving the former an obligation in form of a Certificate & Promisary Note for the Payment,— I have Inlisted Six During the War who had been in the service before, & am in hopes of some more,— but the greatest difficulty is, I have made many promises &

Engagements from time to time with the people thro' the Country, most of which I have not had in my power to fulfill — they are now Jealous of Deseption, and the Ill affected taking the Opportunity Discourages many that woud Engage — the Necessity we are under most of the Time to borrow Provisions, (which we do often under the greatest Disadvantage & Expence in Necessity & Distress) Discourages people allso from Engageing — Permit me Therefore to propose to your Excellency, if it is expected that any part of these Men be raised in the Eastern Country — That the Provisions, Bounty and Cloathing for them be sent here, By which Thirty men might be raised Eastward of Penobscott during the War, but no dependence of any more — the others must be got more Westward,— I must further Recommend & Request of your Excellency that some Active Experienced Military Person, may be sent here for the Command of the Company, to have the immediate Care of Fort Gates, at least in my Absence,— my reason for this is such that I am Possitive it will be Usefull to the Public Service, I am more pressing in Troubling your Excellency on this, as there is a Number of Officers not in Actual Service,— I presume it might be as well as to appoint a New One, which probable may be difficult, to procure this way that wou'd Answer the purpose, nor do I Chuse any with me shou'd take such a Charge,— ¶ We Labour under very great difficultys in not having Provisions this Spring — five barrells of Beef & Pork with the flour was all, & that Towards what was ordered by Government last fall, not a bit of any thing has Come for the present Troops — the Corn for the Indians I have been obliged to take part to Refund some that there was no Possibility of Eveting,— and have for 4 Weeks past procured meat otherwise for the people in the Service,— I find a Quantity of Provisions has Come in the Neashquowoite, but mostly to pay Debts Contracted before my Command,—

We have at present persons Employ'd on different business in the Department, that Consumes about Thirty five Rations Daily, besides many other Contingent Demands which a Department like this Can no way Avoid — at present only about 1200 lb flour for the whole — the Indians allso must have some, if it is not allowed to give them when they are in upon business & Something for Services, the Indian Interest will Certainly be lost, nor is it in my Power to Transact matters, If I am not Enabled to give them something — Amunition I have given Considerable, as in their Situation they cou'd not Subsist without,— I must again take the Liberty to mention, that by procuring things here in the manner I am obliged to Accamulate the Expence of the Department far beyound then if regularly supply'd, and takes up great part of my Time that shou'd be Employ'd otherwise,— your Excellency from this may form a Judgment of the State of the Department & hope some Provisions may, as allso Powder be sent,— Balls there is Sufficient,— The Musquets here are mostly unfit for Service having no Armour,— I have sent Several to the Militia, as allso the Indians,— the latter I expect not to get back, Consequently will want some small Arms,— I must allso request that some Extra Provisions & Ammunition may be sent, for the Indians Bussiness: — ¶ In Respect of News, the Enemy seems to Lye still at Baguaduce, the French Frigate, the Marrs, & some Privatiers from Newbury Calling in here at different Times, has been of the most Material Service, in keeping the Coast Clear of the Enemys Privatiers,— Nothing has happened since some Vessells were loaded at Frenchmans Bay, tho' a Constant Correspondence is keep'd up by some as far as that Place — ¶ As I found there was a great Jarr among the different Districts Occationed by the disaffected, I sent Circular letters to the Several Committees to Meet to Consult for the safety of the Country, one principle View

was to get them Join'd togeather and Try to find out where the Evil lay — they accordingly Mett, but myself being with the Indians near the Time & the weather proving Unfavourable, did not reach them, till they had near done & some had gone off. I suppose your Excellency may by this Time heard the perticulars — There appeared something of a Contridiction in the Signing which them Preasent were Sencible of, tho' coud not be altered, Capt Nickels of Narraguagus stood impeach'd by the Committee of Machias, & in the present address was permitted to be a Signer, without any thing appearing to Palliate the Crime before alledg'd against him, Probable they will give your Excellency satisfaction thereon — there were several Resolves pass'd which if duely Execeuted must be of great Service to the Country — ¶ No Intillegence of any Consequence from Nova Scotia, any more then their Avacuating all their out Posts in the Province Except Fort Cumberland, & Fort How, the former Capt Burns & 20 Men, the latter Major Studholm & about 60 Men. — Endeavouring to geather all Possible in Halifax, — ¶ I must now beg liberty to Solicit your Excellency's Permission to go Westward, I have ranged every matter for the Security of the Different parts, as well as things Can Admit, which may for a Short time Answer as well without me as either The Various business I have been Intrusted with, the length of Time, the Reform of the Department in regard to Indians, the Uncertainty of Conveyances, and the Desire I have of giving every satisfaction During my Stewartship both in my acc^ts and proceedings, makes it absolutely Necessary that I should be present myself — I have Matters to Communicate to your Excellency — to Genl Washington on affairs Intrusted by him — and to the Honble Congress — My being appointed to the Military Command prevents my going without your Excellencys Permission, Must Therefore plead your Indulgence therein to grant Permission as soon as Possible,

shou'd it not be Incompatable with public service,—¶ Mr. Avery who will be the Bearer of this, has Resigned His Office as Secretary in this Department, But from his known Integrity I have Gote him to Continue as my Agent, till my Arrival in Boston. He will be able to Communicate any perticulars, your Excellency may want to know. ¶ I have the Honor to Be with the most Profound Respect ¶ Your Excellencys Most Obd^t Very Hbb^l Servt

June 21st J Allan

Last night an Express from Passamaquody that Twenty Canoes of Indians Arrived from St Johns Expect a number more soon.

In Senate July 3 1781

Read & sent down S Adams Presid^t

His Excellency John Hancock.

Resolve on Petition of John Bane.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 18, 1781

On the Petition of John Bane, Resolved that the Commissary Genl of this Commonwealth deliver s^d Bane Eight hundred weight of Salted Beef & Sixty Six Bushel of Indian Corn or the Value of s^d Corn in Flour or rice in Consideration of S^d Banes haveing Supply^d the Troops of this State Under the Command of Co^l Campbel, at Frenchmans Bay with the Affors^d quantity of Provision as Appears by Col^o Campbels Certificate Nath Gorham Speaker

Sent up for concurrence

In Senate June 18th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^dt

Approv'd John Hancock.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To John Bane Dr

For Rations Supply'd Troops while on Duty in Frenchman's Bay from the 27th October to the 20th of December 1780.—

To 800 lb Beef 33 Bushels of Meal £

To 66 Bushels of Potatoes 1000 feet Boards } £

To my Service as Assistant Commissary of Issues from the 27th October to the 20th of December A. D. 1780 — } £ is One Month & 24 Days a pr month —

Petition in Behalf Town of Berwick, and Resolve.

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives in Generall Court assembled June 21 1781

the petetion of John Hill in behalf of the town of Berwick in the County of York Humbly Shews that their is a Sum of mony Due to Said town from this Commonwealth for the wages of those Soldiers who Served the Last year in the Defence of the Eastern parts thereof under the Command of Generall Wadsworth which Sum the Said towns appropriated for the purpose of procuring or paying the Second Requesition of Beef Laid on Said town and whereas the Superintendant of purchases is Directed to Issue Executions against Delinquent towns who have not Complied with Said Requesitions your petetioner therefore Humbly prays that the treasurer may be Imeadiately Directed to pay what is due on the pay Rolls for the aforesaid men or that the town may be Discharged from the Burthen of an Execution untill the treasr is Impowered to pay the same when the town has Really advanced the mony for this Commonwealth before the Requesition was made Sufficient to purchase the Beef or

that the town may be Discharged from the aforesaid Requesition in some other way as your Honours in your Great wisdom may think Best and your petetioner as in Duty Bound will Ever Pray

John Hill

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 23 1781

On the petition of John Hill in behalf of the Town of Berwick praying that the Superintendant for purchasing beef may be directed to Suspend Issuing his Execution against the said Town of Berwick for not Furnishing their proportion of beef for the Army for reasons sett forth in his petition — Resolved that the Superintendant purchasing beef, be directed to Suspend Isuing his Execution Against the Town of Berwick till the further order of this Court

read & not accepted

Account of William Vaughan, and Resolve Thereon.

State of the Account of William Vaughan Agent to the Estate of Abraham Clark late of a place called Machias — an absentee

Paid for a Deed & recording	£	5	
Letter of Administration		12	
Time & Expence of the Appraisers	2	3	
Ditto of the Commissioners	3	10	7
Probate Fees — in divers Instances —	1	10	
The said Agents own time — Journeying and Expences concerning said Estate in ye whole	6	2	
	£14	2	7

Cumberland Ss. Allowed by ye Judge of Probate for said County June 20 — 1781 and recorded by Saml Freeman Reg.

Accounts Accepted and Allowed.

Common Wealth Massachusetts

In the House Representatives June 21 1781

Whereas it appears upon examination of the Treasurers Acct[s] for the County of York, that all the Monies granted & allowed by the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for Said County, from April 1780 to April 1781 was for such Purposes & appropriations as the Law impowerd said Court to grant [A] & ballance, due to the County from the said Treasurer. Six pounds Nineteen Shillings, for which he is to be accountable [B] —therefore ¶ Resolved that the said accounts be accepted & allowed

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 22 1781

Read & Concurred with Amendment

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi[dt]

Dele from A to B

In the House of Representatives June 22 1781

Read & concurred

N Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Juniper Berthiaume.

To the Honorable Senate And to the Honorable The House of Representatives in General Court Assembled The 22[d] day of June Anno Domini 1781

The Petition of Juniper Berthiaume Recollect — Instructor to The Penobscot Tribe of Indians — Humbly Sheweth ¶ That Your Petitioner has been on Duty With the Indians Eight months past and Supported himself Chiefly and by

the request of Three of the Said "Tribe" Come to Boston They are Arrived here with me Together with an English Linguister to do Some business in behalf of The Rest of the Tribe —

Your Petitioner Prays he May have his back Rations and some Necessarys for his Support for the future — and be dispatched as Soon as possible as he is required to be with the Tribe —

Your Petitioner would Inform Your Honors that the Indians present with me are Sober Temperate Steady — Men And prays they may have Good Quarters allow'd them. The Little while they hope to stay, And Your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c —

juniper Berthiaume Recollet

Petition of Josiah Brewer.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives Assembled the 22d June 1781 —

The Petition of Josiah Brewer, Truckmaster at Fort Hallifax in the County of Lincoln. ¶ Humbly Sheweth — That Your Petitioner on the 27th day of September 1779. Was Appointed Truckmaster at Fort Halifax and has not Received any Pay for the Same and no more than Six Months Rations. He Prays he May have his pay and Rations up to this Time as he Stands in Great Need of them and sent to Fort Halifax. That your Petitioner has Furs & Skins to deliver the Commissary General — And Prays Your Honors would Order them to be Sold, In Order to furnish The Truck House with such Articles as the Indians Stands in need of — and your petitioner as in Duty bound shall Ever Pray &c.

Josiah Brewer

Resolve on Same.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 27, 1781

On the Petition of Joseph Brewer, Truck Master at Fort Halifax in the County of Lincoln, Praying that he may receive his pay & Rations, and that Such Furs & Skins as he has, may be sold for the Benefit of the Indians there ¶ Resolved That the Prayer of the Petition be so far granted, as that the Petitioner, Col Brewer receive his back Rations, & that the Commissary General be & he is hereby directed to sell such Furs & Skins as shall be delivered to him by said Brewer & that the neat proceeds thereof be laid out to furnish the Truck House with such Articles as he shall Judge the Indians Stand in need of, and that the same be forwarded to the place aforesaid — He, the said Brewer being accountable for the same —

Sent up for concurrence Nath Gorham Speaker.

In Senate June 28th 1781

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

at A insert, together with the Rations above mentioned

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presidt

In the House of Representatives June 28, 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock.

Stephen Hall to Governor and Council With Resolve and Instructions on Same.

Boston 23 June 1781

The Subscriber humbly begs leave to represent to your Excellency & Honors, that lately Mr. Joshua Freeman, a respectable Inhabitant & one of the Selectmen of Falmo was

taken in a fishing Boat & carried to Bigwaduce, & is there held a prisoner of war by the Enemy. Application has been made to the Commissary of Prisoners to effect his immediate Exchange; but that being impracticable at present I am desired in a letter just received, to apply to your Excellency & Honors for a flag to enable Benj[a] Woodman of Falm[o] Son in law to s[d] Freeman, to go to Bigwaduce to carry him some necessaries for his Comfort. ¶ The Subscriber therefore humbly prays Your Excellency & Honors to grant a Flag for the purpose aforesaid

Stephen Hall

To His Excellency the Governor in Council

In Council June 23[d] 1781

Advised — That a Flag be granted to Benjamin Woodman of Falmouth Son in Law to Joshua Freeman lately captured and carried to the Enemy at Major baggaduce in order to carry said Freeman some necessaries for his comfortable support while in Captivity —

Attest John Avery Sec[y]

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Council Chamber Boston June 23[d] 1781

Instructions to Benjamin Woodman appointed to the Command of a Flag to proceed to Majorbaggaduce for the purpose of releiving the Necessities of M[r] Joshua Freeman lately captured & Carried in this you are to hoist a White Flag upon the Bow of your Small Boat and to continue it abroad Night and Day until the Flag returns to Falmouth You are to be very carefull that no small Arms of any kind be rec'd on Board the small Boat while she is considered as a Flag, a Violation of this Order may Occasion the Detention of the said Boat — ¶ You are particularly instructed at your Peril not to suffer any Goods of any kind to be taken on Board except the necessaries you carry for the Comfortable Support

of the said Mr. Joshua Freeman ¶ Com[l] of Mass[s] Council Chamber Boston June 23. 1781 ¶ Cap[t] Benjamin Woodman ¶ You being appointed to the Command of a Small Boat now ready to sail for the purpose of carrying necessaries to M[r] Joshua Freeman late Captured and carried in to Majorbaggaduce upon your arrival with the said necessaries you will apply to the Commanding Officer of the Garrison and inform him of your Intention — You are particularly instructed at your Peril not to suffer any Goods of any kind to be taken on Board except the Articles of Cloathing etc. for the more comfortable support of the said M[r] Joshua Freeman while in Captivity

Petition of Phillip Hodgkins.

To the Hon[ble] the Senate & Hon[ble] House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts —

¶ The Petition of Phillip Hodgkins of New Bristol Frenchmans Bay Humbly Shews — ¶ That some Time in the Month of May last Has fitted out His Small Boat or Shallop with Craft & stores for the Passama: quodia Fishery, that some Time after the Ship Mars Commanded by Cap[t] Nevins arrived at Passamaquodia and took and bought of said Boat together with her Appurtenances and Stores, the Distressed Situation of your Memorialists Family has obliged him to take this Journey to Boston to pray that your Honors would direct that his said Boat may be delivered to him as he has no other Dependance for the Support of his Family but by Geting Fish and bringing them to Portsmouth or Newbury to purchase Corn and other Necessarys, and As Cap[t] Nevins has said he does not wish detain any Poor Mans property, and is willing to follow your Honors directions Respecting Her, your Petitioner therefore Humbly prays

that Your Honor would be pleased to direct that the said Boat Appurtenances & Stores may be delivered To Him that he may be Enabled to Support his Family, and as in Duty bound will ever pray —

Philip Hodgkins

Boston 25 June 1781

Resolve in Favor Phillip Hodgkins.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives June 25. 1781

On the Representation of Phillip Hodgkins shewing that in the month of May last, he fitted out his small Fishing Boat of about Ten Tons burden for the Passamaquodia Fishery, for the purpose of obtaining means wherewith to Support his family, but unfortunately she was not furnished with any papers, and for want thereof, she was taken by the State Ship Mars Cap[t] Nevins. ¶ Resolved, that the Agent of this Commonwealth be, and he is hereby Directed, to Restore to the said Phillip Hodgkins, that part of his Boat with her appurtenances, and Stores, which may be in his care; [A] and likewise Recommend to Cap[t] Nevins and the Crew, that they Relinquish all their part of Said Boat, appurtenances and Stores, to said Hodgkins [B]

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate June 25th 1781

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A to B —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi[dt]

Viz. dele from A to B

In the House of Representatives June 25 1781

Read & concurred Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Certificate.

These Certifye that the ballance due to the Common Wealth from the Truck House at Fort Hallyfax is £50,000 — exchang at 75 for 1 — exclusive of the pay & rations of the Truck master —

Col Brewer has this day Dld me 300 moose skins 53 Beaver do 64 Musquash — do 8 mink — do 300 Sable — do Beaver do 64 Musquash — do 8 mink — do 300 Sable — do — 18 Black catt — do 14 Otters — do 17 Rackon — do 4 Fox — do ¶ tis uncertain what sum the above skins will sell for

Rich[d] Devens Com[y] Gen.

Boston June 26, 1781 — To the Hon[le] Com[tee]

Petition of Andrew Gilman.

Common Wealth Massachusetts

June 26th 1781

To the Honorable Senate, and the Honorable House of Representatives Assembled —

The Petition of Andrew Gilman Lieu[t] And Interpreter to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians ¶ Humbly Sheweth That Your Petitioner has been Some Considerable Time in the Service without his drawing any Pay. That at this Juncture he don't Expect to obtain Any — Your Petitioner being Destitute and very Bare and Almost Naked for want of Cloathing. He prays Your Honors would Order him some Convenient Cloathing out of the Cloathing Store he to be accountable for The Same And also a Small Tent to Cover him as he is Obliged to Travil & Lodge in the Night In the Woods — & Your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Andrew Gilman

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 2d 1781

on the Petition of Lieut Andrew Gilman, Interpreter to the Penobscot Tribe — ¶ Resolved That the Comtee for purchasing Supplies be Ordered and directed to Supply the said Gilman with Suitable Cloathing for one of his Rank he being accountable for the same —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 2d 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Second Petition of Chief Orino.

To The Honorable Senate and The Honorable The House of Representatives, Assembled the Twenty Seventh day of June 1781

The Petition of Orino Chief of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians Humbly Sheweth — That Your Petitioner Has the Chief Command of the Indians of The Penobscot Tribe That Your Petitioner In Novr 1780 — Had the Charge of A Number of Letters for the Mickmac St John's and Passamaquody Tribes from Your Honl Court To be deliverd to Coll John Allen Superintendent at Machias In order to be Sent to those different Tribes. That Your Petitioner Was at the Charge of Sending those Letters, from Fort Halifax by Two Indians. One hundred and Fifty Miles to Mechias. When they Arrived There One of Them was Sent By Coll Allen to the Mickmac & other Tribes Three Hundred Miles

with Said Letters and When he Returned Coll^{l} Allen Informed him he must Apply to Your Honors for pay for his Trouble —

That Your Petitioner Upon his Return was Obliged to Satisfie him. In Giveing him a Red Broad Cloath New Blanket, a New Blue Broad Cloath Coat & Jackett One Pair New Broad Cloath Indian Stockings, One New Ruffled Shirt, One Pair New Maugasons One Gun Powder And Ball and Fifteen days Provision also That Your Petitioner with A Number of Other Indians are Deprived of Our Old Settlements at Penobscot by Reason of The Brittish having Possession there, makes it difficult for us to raise Provisions but are ready & Willing to Serve on Millatary Duty at all times if we Can be allowed to draw Each of us to the Amount of 20 or 30 of us one Ration p day. As we are in much want of it, Prays Your would Grant w^{t} in Your Wisdom Shall see fitt. & your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

Mark of
Orino ∫·.·∫ Chief Indian

Petition of Chief Orino.

To the Honorable Senate and to The Honorable the House of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusets

June 30th 1781

The Petition of Orino Chief of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians Humbly Sheweth That Your Petitioner In the Course of The Last Winter was Obliged to Borrow A Small quantity of Provisions of Coll^{l} Josiah Brewer & Ezekiel Pattee Esqr According to the price in their Accounts. Viz^{t} Twenty five bushels of Indian Corn, One hundred & fifty

pounds Beef and One hundred and fifty Pounds of Pork and Ten Gallons of Molasses for the Support of Five Indian Widdows Whose Husbands Fell In Battle in the Service of the United States, and Some of the Tribe who were in Great distress for Want of Support.

That Your Petitioner and the Rest of the Tribe being in Necessitous Circumstances On Account of our being drove from our Homes, at Penobscot makes us very Needy. And poor, and was not Able to do anything for the Aforesaid Widdows.

Your Petitioner Prays your Excellency & Honors Would Grant him Wherewith to Repay the Said provision. And Your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c

The Mark
of ʃ·:ʅ Orino

Resolve in Favor of Chief Orino.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 2d 1781

Whereas Orino Chief of the Penobscot Indians ¶ has Supported his petition by Evidence, That he Supplied the Express sent to Machias, and from thence to the Mickmacks St Johns and Passimaquaddy Tribes with the Articles set forth in his petition vizt A Red broad Cloth New Blankett, a New blew broad Cloth Coat and Jackett one pair of New broad Cloth Indian Stockings, One New Ruffled Shirt, one pair of New Morgasons, one Gun, Powder & Ball ¶ Resolved That the Comtee for purchasing Supplies be Ordered and directed to furnish the said Orino with the aforesaid Articles. B ¶ C. ¶ Resolved That the Commissary of this Commonwealth be

Ordered to supply Capt Josiah Brewer, Truckmaster at Halifax with Sufficient Provisions, for him to deliver to the said Orino and his Tribe Thirty Rations per Day —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 5th 1781

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A to B & at C.

Viz at A dele from A to B —

at C insert "Indians." —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives July 5 1781

Read & unanimously nonconcurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 6th 1781

Reconsidered & Concurred as it stood originally —

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial of Joseph Brewer.

To The Honorable Senate & Honorable The House of Representatives July 2^{d} 1781 —

The Memorial of Josiah Brewer, Truck Master at Fort Halifax Humbly Sheweth.—

That Your Memorialist, has Supplied the Indians with Stores on Account of the State and was Obliged to take part of Pay from them in paper, Old Continental Currency — to the Amount of About six Hundred Pounds Old Money And fifty four Dollars New Money — which The Comissary General dont Chuse to Receive without Orders from Your Honorable Court. Your Memorialist Prays Your Honors Orders & He as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray &c —

Josiah Brewer

Resolve on Same.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 1781

On the Petition of Col° Josiah Brewer — Resolv'd that the Commissary be directed not to Receive any Money either of the Old Continental Currency or of the New Emission, as it appears to your Committee that by a Resolve of the 27 September 1779 the said Brewer had no Liberty to Sell any Effects belonging to the Common Wealth, only for Skins & Furrs & to no other Persons except Indians

Resolve in re Disposal of Vessels.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 5 1781

Whereas the Schooner Nasquoit which has been Imployed in the Eastern Department is an unsuitable Vessel for Said purpose therefore

Resolved that Mr James Avery (who has now the care of Said Schooner) be & he is hereby Directed to Deliver her with all her Stores & appurtenances to Caleb Davis the Agent for this Common Wealth who is hereby Directed to sell Said Schooner Together with Such Stores as are not Wanted for publick Service, at publick Auction & pay the Money arising from her Sale to the Treasurer of this Common Wealth Takeing Duplicate Receipts for the same, which Money the Treasurer is Directed to pay on acc^t of the warrants in favour of Col° John Allen ¶ and whereas the Agent affores^d in obedience to the orders of the Genl Court has fitted the Lincoln Galley as a Cruizer for the Eastern Coast, and it being Represented that the said Galley is not a Suitable Vessel for Said purpose: Resolved that on the Return of Said

Galley to the Harbour of Boston the Agent affores^{d} be & he is hereby directed to Exchange her (Either by Sale or otherwais as he shall Judge Most for the Intrest of the Common Wealth, for a More Suitable Vessell to Carry not more than Eight or Less than four three or four pound Cannon — and his Excellency the Governor with advice of Councell is hereby Requested to give Such Orders to the armed Vessels of this Common Wealth as he shall Judge Necessary for the Suport of the post at Machias

Sent up for concurrence

Nath. Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 6th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial of Juniper Berthiaume.

To the Honorable Senate & The Honorable The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

July 6th 1781

¶ The Memorial of Juniper Bethiaume, Recollect & Instructor to the Penobscot Tribe of Indians Humbly Sheweth — ¶ That Your Memorialist Together wth A Linguister & Three Indians are here waiting An Oppertunity to get home with what Your Honors hath Pleased to Grant them. And are Without money or Provision for their Support, and no body willing to do for them — Without their Pay — ¶ Your Memorialist Prays Your Honors to Grant about Twenty five Pounds, therefor in Specie And Your Memorialist as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

Juniper Berthiaume Recollet

Resolve in Favor Juniper Berthiaume.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives July 6 1781

On the Petition of Juniper Berthiaume ¶ Resolved that his Excellency the Governor and Councill be requested to examine the account for the support of s[d] Berthiaume and the indians now in Boston with him and make such allowance therefor as they may think proper and such further allowance as may be necessary for their support untill an opportunity presents for their return — And it is further Resolved that Excellency the Governor with the advice of Councill be impowerd to draw such sum or sums of money out of the Treasury for the above purpose — A

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 6 1781

Read & accepted with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi[dt]

at A add, "not exceeding [B] Sixty [C] pounds in Bills of the new Emmission

In the House of Representatives July 6 1781

¶ Read & concurred with an amendment on the amendment of the Hon[l] Senate

Viz at B — dele from B to C and insert, one hundred

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate July 6, 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi[dt]

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of James Mosher.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Honble Senate, And House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of James Mosher. (Constable & Collector for the Town of Gorham for the year 1780,) Humbly Sheweth

That, your Petitioner must be a Very great Sufferer in Consequence of a late Resolve pass^{d} in the great & Genl Court, the 3rd Inst Unless your Hon^{rs} Should See fit to Consider him. And not only your Petitioner, but great numbers of the Inhabitants of Gorham must be greatly distresst. the Case is truly this,— The Town of Gorham has, during the Present War, ever, readily Comply^{d} with every Requisition of the Genl Court, Respecting the Raising of men & money, which your Hon^{rs} are Sensible of. Notwithstanding the great Numbers of Poor Families there is in the Town who are put to the greatest difficulties to find Bread for their poor Children to Eat, And your Hon^{rs} must also be Sensible that if every Town in this Common Wealth had as fully Comply^{d} with the Several Requisitions of Court, as the Town of Gorham has done, there would have been little, or no want, of this whole States Quota of men & other Supplies for the Army, in Octr last this Town was Call^{d} upon for about 6000 w^{t} of Beef for the Army, it was readily Voted, and the beef Procured & turn^{d} in, to the proper Receiver, in Jany last we was Call^{d} upon for above 11000 w^{t} of Beef more, but at that Season of the Year, it was not to be had in the Town, But money in lieu thereof was readily Voted, and Assess^{d} which amounted to a very heavy Tax, about the same time, this Town was Call^{d} upon to Raise fifteen men for the Continental Army,— which was also fully Comply^{d} with by the Town, which brot on another heavy Tax, and being obliged to Raise and Clothe so many men so soon, it was impracticable

for the people in General to git the money, & Consequently for your Petitioner to Collect it for to discharge the Tax above mention^{d} in lieu of the 11000 w^{t} of Beef a great part of which Remains yet unpaid, as the Persons from whom it is due had not the means wherewith to procure the money, nor Could any ways git it till those who had it by them finding out (before your Petitioner could even hear any intimation of it) what the Hon^{bl} Court was about to do, or had done Respecting the old Currency who was then willing to part with it, and the people, not knowing what Resolve had pass^{d} in the Genl Court, gladly got the money upon any terms in order to Discharge their Taxes in your Petitioner Bills, when to the Surprize both of y^{r} Petitioner & them we find the money Struck Dead in our hands, Your Petitioner never could obtain Sight of the Resolve of the 3rd Ins^{t} till Saturday the 21st Ins^{t} had the newspapers been sent to the Town Clerk of Gorham as Constant as they are to Falmouth & North Yarmouth Your petitioner would have been seasonable Apprized of the Resolve — but none has been brought for the Clerk of Gorham for Six weeks past which y^{r} Petitioner Cant Account for, as he^{s} inform^{d} that the Hon^{bl} Court has order^{d} that Willis^{s} paper be sent weekly, to every Town Clerk in the Common Wealth: the Receipts Sent by the Treasurer Genl to your Petitioner has been readily and punctually paid, Your Petitioner, Deliverd to Capt Joseph Noyes the 20th Ins^{t} £16674:18 — old Continental Currency for State Taxes, which was paid to y^{r} petitioner before the Expiration of the time set in the Resolve above mention^{d} —

Therefore as the Above Representation is the truth, and as Your Petitioner has Exerted himself to the Utmost of his Power to Collect the Taxes Committed to him to Collect, And your Petitioner and many poor honest Persons in Gorham must be greatly distrest Unless Y^{r} Petitioner is allow^{d} to pay in the Old Currency which is on hand, Your Petitioner there-

fore Humbly Prays Your Excellency & Hon^{rs} to take his Case into Consideration, and Allow him further time to pay in what is yet behind for State and Beef Taxes, and y^{r} Hum^{bl} Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall ever Pray

James Mosher Collector

Gorham July 23^{d} 1781

We Certify that the foregoing Petit^{n} is founded on Truth, & in our opinion on equity That the Signer has serv'd in the Office faithfully & can recommend his cause to the favourable consideration of Legislature

Edwd Phinny Wm. Gorham } Selectmen of Gorham

Austin Alden Town Clerk

Memorial from F Shaw J^{r}

To His Excellency the Governor and Honble the Council of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

The Memorial of Francis Shaw Junr Humbly Shews, that he has repeatedly applyed for Copy's of the Charges presented to your Excell^{y} and Honors by Col^{o} Jno Allan and others in the County of Lincoln and is Informed by Mr Sec^{y} Avery, that they cannot be deliver'd without your Excelly's order, your Memorialist Conscious to himself that He has never knowingly, Violated any of the acts of the Honble Congress, or this Commonwealth, is more desirous of haveing full Copy's of all the papers that have been laid before your Excell^{y} & Honors, with your proceedings on the 2^{d} & 4 May last, not doubting he shall be able to Vindicate his Character against all the Charges brought by his Enemies against it. ¶ Your Memorialist would further represent to your Excellency & Honors, that ever since the Commencement of Hostilitys, his Family & person have been harrassed & much distressed, and his property depravated not only by

the Enemies of the United States but by some of the Subjects of this Commonwealth, an Instance of which he is sorry to Inform your Excell^{y} & Honors, has lately taken place from a full Conviction that your Excell^{y} & Honors, would wish to promote the protection of Person, & security of Property throughout the Commonwealth, and perticularly to situations altogether defenceless, your Memorialist is Induced to request a Governmental permit to prosecute his Lawful Business, which he flatters himself will in a Great Measure prevent any further depradations from his fellow Countrymen, and of Consequence Letigious Law suits, & unnecessary absence from his Family, & Bussiness, which have allready well nigh wasted his Substance, and your Memorialist as in duty bound will ever pray

Fr^{a} Shaw J^{r}

Boston 23 July 1781

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Mass^{tts}

In Council July 25th 1781

On the Petition of Francis Shaw J^{r} of Goldsborough in the County of Lincoln praying that he may be protected in his Person & Property and permitted to go about his lawfull Business in said County —

Advised That The Prayer of the Petition be granted and that Francis Shaw be and hereby is permitted to return to Goldsborough in ye County of Lincoln & prosecute his Lawfull Business and all Commanders of Armed Vessels & others belonging to this Commonwealth are hereby commanded and it is, hereby recommended to all Commanders of Armed Vessels & others belonging to the United States not to molest or hinder the Said Francis Shaw in the Prosecution of his lawfull Business at Said Goldsborough —

Attest John Avery Sec^{y}

Petition of Peleg Wadsworth.

To his Excellency the Governor & Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Petition of Peleg Wadsworth humbly sheweth, that having had the Misfortune to loose the most of his Clothing by being a Prisoner & not being able, at present, to obtain any Money of the Treasurer, or otherwise to get decent apparrel; Therefore humbly prayeth that he may have an order on the Agents of the State Store for a Suit of Cloths, vizt a Great Coat, Coat, westcoat & Breeches; also an order on the Commissary for a pair Pistols, Fusee & Blunderbus, either in lieu of the same articles which he has lost, or to be by him Accounted for as shall be judged most expedient, & your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Peleg Wadsworth

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council July 25, 1781

Whereas it hath been represented by Peleg Wadsworth Esq. that he had the Misfortune to loose most of his Cloathing when he was captured by the Enemy and carried to Penobscot when in the Service of this Commonwealth and that he is unable to replace the same for want of Money —

Advised. That it be & it is hereby recommended to Ebenezer Wales Esqr & Capt Amasa Davis a Committee of Supplies to furnish Peleg Wadsworth Esq. with Cloth sufficient for a Suit of Cloaths — he to pay for said Cloathing when he shall have received the wages due to him out of the Treasury —

Attest John Avery Sec^y

Letter of H. Y. Brown.

Brownfield Augt 7th 1781

S^{r}

About 20 Days ago a Party from Canada came into the upper Coos, & from thence proceeded to Dartmouth a Town thro' which the Road passes from the upper Coos to Falmouth thro' this Place; at Dartm^{h} they took Joseph Whipple Esq who made his Escape from them after which they took all his Effects they coud carry off to the Amount of One Hundred Guineas — Last Fryday Evening a party of 7 or 8 Indians came to Fullerstown on Androscoggin River from thence took 2 Men by the Name of Clerk, Capt Twitchel & one Man more, there is also missing Hope Austin formerly from Methuen; they then proceeded up the River to Shelburne & discovered two Men at Work in a Field of Capt Rindgis a White Man & Negro, the White Man ran Peter Poor by Name whom they shot thro' the Head the Negro they made a Prisoner, they also took a young Son of Daniel Ingalls's but were afterwards prevailed on to discharge one of the Clerks & the young Lad, they then proceeded up the River with all the Plunder they could carry: this Account comes from a Party of Observation from Conway who got in last Night — A Party from Fryeburg of 23 Men set out on Saturday Evening for Fullerstown Six have returned, the Remainder with some of the Inhabitants of Fullerstown & an Indian Pilot are in Pursuit of them, with a fair Prospect of cutting them off as the Enemy follow the River & our People know a much shorter Route to a Lake they must pass — ¶ Mr Whipple is gone to Newhampshire to request a Scouting Party — Vermont has a Party of Soldiers at the upper Coos, if this Commonwealth would make Provision for a Party of Twenty Men, they might be so stationed as to protect the Settlements on Androscoggin River from such scouring Parties from Canada otherways they must break

up, & as they are a Barrier Twenty Miles in the Wilderness from other Settlements & cover the Countys of York & Cumberland — I doubt not of your immediate Exertions if within your Power to order a party & if not you will by an immediate & pressing Solicitation to the Governor obtain it. a small Delay may induce Families to hover in which would be a great Damage to the public — It is probable that Partys will be kept out till we hear from you ¶ I am Sr Your most obedient Humble Servt

H: Y: Brown

N. B. Capt Twitchel made his Escape tho he was Bound I know of no man more Sutable for the business than Lt John Evans of Fryeburg his knowledge of the Country and Experience in the Service Renders him very capible for it

Warrant For Arrest Andrew Reed Jr.

Lincoln Ss The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
To the Sheriff of our County of Lincoln his Under Sheriff or deputy Greeting.

We Command you to attatch the Goods or Estate of Andrew Reed Junr in said County Gentleman to the value of twenty four pounds for want thereof to take the body of the Said Andrew Reed if he may be found in your precinct and him Safely keep. So that you have him before our justices of our Inferior Court of Common Pleas next to be holden at Pownalboro, within & for our Said County of Lincoln on the last tuesday of September next. then and there in our Said Court to answer unto Benjamin Kent of Said Boothbay yeoman in a plea of the Case for that the Said Benjamin at Said Boothbay on the fourth day of September in the year of our Lord Seventeen hundred and Seventy Nine was possessed of a Whale boat, two oars, two sails & forty fathom of Rope altogether of the value of Eighteen pounds as of his own

property and being so possessed there afterwards on the Same day Casually lost the Same. which Same boat oars sails and rope afterwards on the same day came into the hands & possession of the said Reed by finding and he knowing the same of right to belong to the plaintiff but contriving to defraud him thereof Reed afterwards on the same day Converted the Same boat Sails Oars and rope to his own Use. to the damage of the Said Benjamin Kent as he Saith the Sum of twenty four pounds which shall then and there be made to appear with other due damages, and have you Show this Writ with your doings therein witness William Lithgow Esqr at Pownalboro, this ninth day of August in the year of our Lord 1781.

True Coppy Jon^{a} Benjamin Cler —

Certificate Inhabitants of Winslow.

This may certify whom it may concern that We the subscribers are Inhabitants of the Town of Winslow in the County of Lincoln and near Neighbours of Major Ezekiel Pattee of said Town, & that for the greater part of last Winter large parties of Indians were almost constantly at his house, that he furnished them with provisions & many other articles, in order to preserve the Peace of these settlements, there being at that time little or no supplies for them in the Truck house. which was superintended by Col^{o} Brewer, and that the said Indians were Very troublesome to said Major Pattee and his family and we are very certain the said Indians never made him any Satisfaction for the Provisions &c which he furnished them with —

Solomon Parker	Asa Phillips
Manuel Smith	frances Dudley
Thomas Parker	David Pattee

Winslow Augt 11th 1781

Petition of Martha Oxnard.

To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

The Petition of Martha Oxnard of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland ¶ Humbly Shews, ¶ That your Petitioner's Husband, Mr Thomas Oxnard after the Destruction of the Trade and Town of Falmouth did retire from his Family to Places under the immediate Power of the King of Great Britain, not incited thereto as your Petitioner humbly suggests by any other Motive than a fear of personal Injury as he conjectured from some ill-minded Persons in the Town of Falmouth; since which his Name was indiscriminately inserted in an Act of the then State of Massachusetts Bay with those whose Return the State thought prudent to forbid; by which your Petitioner has for more than four Years past been deprived of his Society and he of the tender Pledges of their mutual Affection, a Calamity, the Distress of which your Excellency and Honors will easily conceive and admit without the bitter Experience— ¶ Your Petitioner begs Leave to inform your Excellency and Honors that her Husband has lately arrived at Majorbagwaduce, with whom she could wish to spend a few Months at least; And not presuming to scan the Wisdom and Providence of the Deity in ordaining, for her so severe a Trial, and far from calling in Question the Propriety of the Act above mentioned, whereby in its Consequences those have unhappily lived asunder whom God hath joined together, your Petitioner cannot but flatter herself with the Ready Grant of her Request, when she asks not for any Distinction in her Favor at present, other than your Excellency's and Honors' Permission to go with her eldest Son about seven years of Age in the Schooner Hazard Burthen about thirty Tons commanded by
of from Falmouth to Penobscot as a Flag

at her own Expence and to tarry with her Husband for some Months, yet not relinquishing the Hope of Permission for her to return, if happier Times of Peace should not preclude the Necessity of a Discrimination in his Favor and reverse the Decree of his Banishment.— ¶ Your Petitioner begs Leave to add that she has not a Wish to carry with her or to bring back any Property whatever exclusive of her wearing Apparel —

In this her Suit your Petitioner flatters herself with an Advocate in the Bosoms of your Excellency and Honors more irresistably persuasive if possible than even the Tears of a Stranger, tho' of a Woman;— So shall the Blessings of her Sex descend on the heads of your Excellency and Honors to soften the Asperity of Fortune and increase every domestic Felicity,— So shall the heart-felt satisfaction of having made two Persons happy brighten the Gloom of a like tedious Absence from those you most love if such Misfortune should betide you (which Heaven avert.) and so your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray for the Wellfare and Prosperity of America —

Martha Oxnard

Action of Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council Augt 13, 1781

On the Petition of Martha Oxnard ¶ Advised — That the Prayer of the Petition be granted and that Martha Oxnard be permitted with her Eldest Son to take passage on Board the Schooner Hazard Ebenezer Prebble Master for the purpose of visiting her Husband Mr Thomas Oxnard at Penobscot for three or four Months from the date hereof and that a Flag be granted to said Vessel for her safe passage there

and the said Prebble is hereby directed not to carry any Goods of any kind nor more Provisions than necessary for his voyage nor bring any Merchandize from thence —

Attest John Avery Sec^y

Petition of Nathaniel Coffin.

To his Excellency the Governor and the hon^ble Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of Nathaniel Coffin of Falmouth in the County of Cumberland Humbly shews

That your Petitioner's Brother Francis Coffin removed from said Falmouth in June 1773 to Great Britain from whence he followed the Seas till December 1777 when he died leaving your Petitioner & a Maiden Sister residing with him in Falmouth among his Heirs: That your Petitioner has never had an opportunity of certain intelligence what Effects his Brother left or what probable mode of obtaining them with safety till within a few weeks, when he was informed by an open Letter from Mr Robert Pagan, at Penobscot, that Sundry Articles, part of said Effects, are transmitted to him to be delivered to your Petitioner or order, ¶ Wherefore as your Petitioner humbly presumes your Excellency & Honors will not consider the receiving said effects as injurious, but on the contrary beneficial, to the Commonwealth of which your Petitioner is an Inhabitant, so he humbly prays your Excellency's & Honors special Leave to go or Send for the same to Penobscot in such way or manner as in your Wisdom shall seem consistant with the public Good, & the Laws of this Commonwealth; & your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray — in behalf of Doctor Coffin

John Codman Junr

Boston 16 Augt 1781

Advice of Council on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Mass^{tts}

In Council Chamber Aug 16 1781

Advised. That the Prayer of this Petition be granted and that Nathaniel Coffin be permitted to send by Ebenezer Prebble Commander of the Cartel Schooner called the Hazard bound to Penobscot for sundry Articles the Effects of his deceased Brother Francis Coffin in the Hands of Mr Robert Pagan at Penobscot as appears by his Letter dated fourth June last And said Prebble is hereby permitted to receive the same— And all Commanders of Armed Vessels & others belonging to this State are hereby directed and All Commanders of Armed Vessels & others belonging to the United States are requested not to molest or impede the said Schooner Hazard with the Effects of the said Coffin on Board on her return from Penobscot to Falmouth aforesaid

Attest John Avery Sec^{y}

Order on Same.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Council Chamber Boston Aug 16th 1781

Ordered that Nathaniel Coffin be and he hereby is permitted to send by Capt Ebenezer Prebble bound to Penobscot for the Articles within mentioned and said Prebble is hereby permitted to receive the same — And all Commanders of Armed Vessels and others belonging to this State are hereby directed and all Commanders of Armed Vessels and others belonging to the United States are requested not to molest or impede the said Schooner, with the effects of the said Coffin on board on her return from Penobscot to Falmouth accordingly —

John Hancock

Jn° Frost to the Governor.

Kittery Augs^t 20th 1781

Sir

Inclosed is Returns of the field officers chosen agreeable to the late Militia Law for the three Regiments in the County of York Likewise a Letter from Col° Goodwin and another from Capt Brown which your Excellency will See I recd your Excellency orders in order to Detach a number of men from my Brigade I Immediately gave orders for the same, Sum of the Men have been raised and marched but by reason of the money being so bad and now hard money this way and the Enemie on ouer Banks makes it Extream Difficulte to Procure the men tho the officers are rising all In their Power for that Purpose; If your Excellency should think fit to send me any further order as to Brownfield or any other affair I shall take it the Higest Honnor to Put the same into Execution —

I have the Honour to be your Excellency most obed^t Humb^l Servant

Jn° Frost

His Excellency Governor Hancock

Petition of Andrew Reed.

To the Honorable the Senate and Honorable the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

The Petition of Andrew Reed of Boothbay Junr Humbly Shews That your petitioner being a Lieutenant in one of the Companies at and after the unsuccessful siege against Bagwaduce; On return of the troops to Boothbay your Petitioner recieved Express command from Brigadier General Lovell to collect a number of Boats for use of the said Troops; among others a Boat belonging to Mr Benjamin Kent of Said Booth-

bay was impress'd into the service, and by some means or accident not yet returned, tho your Petitioner is entirely ignorant of the manner in which She was disposed of, Mr Kent has often demanded pay for his said Boat from your Petitioner who Petitioned your Honours for direction, but whether occasioned by Miscarriage, or what else is unknown to me but I have recieved no answer, Mr Kent has at last Sued me for Said Boat to next September Court to be holden at Pownalboro, I must pray your Honours that your Petitioner may not be obliged to pay for said Boat, with or without Costs of Court, as she was impressed Only in Obedience to Command the orders for my so doing will be presented with this to your Honors must importune your Honours interposition in the affair as it is of a Public nature and grant such assistance as y^{r} Wisdom shall dictate for help of your Petitioner who as in duty bound Shall Ever pray

And^{w} Reed Liet

Boothbay August 24th 1781.

Paper Accompanying Petition.

Head Quarters Townsend Augt 29 — 1779

Sir

You are requested to muster all canons, Boats &c — in this bay, Shipescut River, & damascotty River fitt for the use of the troops and to convoy them here immediately,

Sir your humble Servant

S Lovell B^{r} G^{l}

N B you will Take to your assistance as many men from your Company as you Shall think proper you will call on Mr Brown the Commissary for provisions for your Support

Superscription — Lieut^{t} Andrew Reed Booth Bay

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Octr the 11th 1781

on the petition of Andrew Reed Lieut praying for pay for his Whale boatt taken from him by General orders your Committee beg leave to report as their opinion that the petition and papers accompining the same lay untill the nex Setting of the General Court

Warning.

Limerick August ye 26th 1781

To all Persons that are friends to the independensy of the United States Be Ware of all stragling fellows that are passing that feign themselves as Fools there was one went from this Place Last Saterday we here he is now in Smalls town we there By think just to send Mr Abijah felek after him to take him and confine him till he can prove where he is from and where he is going he is taken for a Spye and we fear he is an indian Pilot By inquiering how People is out for Powder Balls and Guns and vews all houses in side and out & in a Sly manner the Barer will tel Some more Peticlers in Behalf of the Plantation

Jacob Bradbury
John Wingate } Assessors
Joseph Gillpatrick

Letter Josiah Brewer.

Fort Hallifax Sep^{t} 4th 1781

Sir

I should be glad if you could send me a few things for the Truck House at this place I stand in need of the following articles Viz 2 Peacies Coarse Broad Cloath 6 ^{lb} paint

Sewing needles fishooks a little Rum Sugar and Coffe ¶ if the Rations for the theirty Indians Could be sent before the River is shut up it will be of Great Service to them and families to help them through the Winter. as the Crops are Cut short in these partes it will not be in the power of the Inhabitants to Suppli them. if you Could send the things to Col° William Howards at Fort Westorn I should take it as a favour. I Remaine your most Obedient and very Humble Servant

Josiah Brewer

Advice Relating to Father DeBourger.

In Council Sep^t 5, 1781

Advised that Richard Devens Esq Commissary General be directed to deliver the Rev^d father Frederick DeBourger Chaplain of one of his most Christian Majesties Ship and lately a Missionary among the Eastern Tribes of Indians under the Care of Col° John Allen Superintendant of Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department two hundred and thirty two Rations due to him for his Service from the Seventh of May 1780 to the 30th August 1781 — and Charge the same to the United States —

Attest John Avery Sec^y

Petition of Ami Smith.

Boston Sep^t 5, 1781

To His Excellency the Governor & the Gentlemen of the Council of the CommonWealth of Massachusetts

the Petition of Ami Smith — Most Humbly Sheweth that your Petitioner being a Widow with four Children & having no Ways to subsist upon, but having a father & friends in

Halifax & Penobscot begs your Excellency & Honors that you would Grant her liberty to depart in the first Flagg that sails for Either of those places as She has friends that will provide for her and her Children there Against the Ensuing aproaching Winter & your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray

her
Ami × Smith
mark

Attested Fra^s Southack

In Council Sep^t 5 1781 Advised — That Ami Smith be permitted to depart this Commonwealth with her four Children in the first Cartel that shall sent from the Harbour of Boston either to Halifax or Penobscot and not to return again without special Leave of the General Assembly

Attest John Avery Secy

Petition of Joseph Bragdon Jr.

Commonwealth Massachusetts

To the Hon^bl Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of Joseph Bragdon J^r humbly Sheweth that Your Petitioner having Served the State and Commonwealth in the office of Muster Master for the County of York for three years past and upon an Adjustment of Accou^ts on June 28, 1781 Receiv'd of the Committee on Accou^ts the Sum of £549 6 in Old Emission of Continen^l Money which was of no Value to Your Petitioner when it was Receiv'd by him which Payment was for Service Principally done two Years Past wherefore Your Petitioner Humbly prays he may return said Money and be Paid in other Money Current within this Commonwealth and Your Petitioner in Duty bound Shall ever Pray &c

Joseph Bragdon J^r Must^r Mast^r for County York

York 8th Septr 1781

Petition of Andrew Reed.

To the Honorable the Senate & Honorable the house of Representatives in General Court Assembled.

The Petition of Andrew Reed of Boothbay Humbly sheweth, That your Petitioner with his Sons were employed by Genl Lovell in the expedition to Penobscot—Anno 1779—that a sloop the property of your Petit^{r} was taken up by the Gen^{ls} orders as a transport in that expedition — & fell with the rest of the fleet: — that your Petitioner has never received any compensation for his said service & loss: that the damage consequent thereon to him & his family has been very great — partly as the fate of war had previously deprived him of every other vessel — & therefore the only hope remaining of finding a subsistence for his family depended on his being able to employ himself & his sons in the business of coasting in this.— But chiefly because the said sloop had been lately purchased of Henry Hodge of Pownalboro' for a sum of continental money to be paid at a certain day which sum y^{r} Petitioner carried & lawfully tendered to said Hodge on the day in which the payment was stipulated — but the said Hodge refused to receive it & your Petit^{r} was constrained to reposit the sum in his desk & keep it untouched until it ceased to be of any value — that the said Hodge at the June Court in the present year sued y^{r} Petit^{r} to Pownalboro, under cover of a late Act of the General Court, for the whole sum in hard money — & it being impossible for your Petit^{r} to pay the same unless he should receive payment for the said sloop from this Honble assembly he petitioned the Genl Court for some relief in the Case — & as the treasury was not in condition to make payment to y^{r} Petitioner at that time, an order was passed to stop said Hodge's prosecution until this instant September withal giving your Petitioner encouragment to hope that some more effectual measures would be taken be-

fore that time for the finishing of that matter — the time is come — the Inferior Court at Pownalboro sits in this Month & your Petitioner cannot find that any thing is provided for his relief: he therefore expects that execution will issue at said Court against him & if it should it will involve him & his family in irrecoverable ruin —

Your Petitioner therefore prays your Honors to take his case into your wise consideration & grant him such relief therein as to your Honors in your great wisdom shall appear just & meet & your Petitioner as in duty bound Shall ever pray

And^{w} Reed

Boothbay Septr 10th 1781

Action on Foregoing.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Octr ye 11th 1781

on the petition of Andrew Reed praying for pay for his Sloop Lost in the Penobscutt Expedition your Committee beg leave to report as their opinion that the petition and papers accompining the Same Lay untill the next Sitting of the Gen^{rl} Court

Petition of Mary Crawford.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

Septr 13th 1781

To The Hon^{l} Senate and the Honorable The House of Representatives in Gener^{l} Court Assembled —

The Petition of Mary Crawford of Templeton Widdow — Humbly Sheweth That Your Petio^{r} Lived at Penobscot with her Late Husband Docter Crawford who was Chaplin at The Fort at Penobscot — sometime before the Enemy took possession There. Your Petitioner being then a Widdow Came

from Thence A few days Before the Enemy arrived there, (On A Visit to her Friends at Templeton and would be Glad of Leave to Return, there in Order to Secure as much of her Intrest As She Can, & bring back with her in Order for her & Childrens Support she Prays Your Hon^{rs} Permit to Go Up Penobscot River & Return & Your Petitioner as in Duty bound Shall Ever pray &c

Mary Crawford

Order Creating Committee.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Septr 13, 1781

Ordered That Col^{o} Coffin & Co^{l} Taylor with such as the Hon^{l} Senate shall join, be a Committee to enquire into the nature of the Establishment at Machias, and the Resolutions of Congress authorizing this State to charge the united States with the Sums advanced by this State for the Support of the Post at Machias,— and to report a State of Facts

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Sep^{t} 13th 1781

Read & Concurred & Cotton Tufts Esqr is join'd

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Report of Committee Respecting Machias.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Committee appointed "to enquire into the Nature of the Establishment at Machias, and to charge the united States with the Sums advanced by this State for the Support of the Post at Machias and report a State of Facts," beg leave to report, That your Committee have enquired into the nature of

the Establishment at Machias and find it to be a Continental Establishment, falling within the Department of John Allen Esq. who was appointed by Congress Agent for Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department, Jany 14, 1777 — As Agent of Congress the said John hath made application to this State from Time to Time for supplies to carry on the Business of his Agency: Supplies have been granted, and Provision made for the Support of the Post at Machias in full Confidence that Congress would be answerable for the same — And the Appointment of a Priest in that Quarter, was evidently made (in 1778) by the then Council of this State at the Desire of Congress as the following Resolve will show. Cotton Tufts p^{r} Ord^{r}

Resolution of Congress Relating to Indians.

In Congress Dec. 5th 1778

Resolved, That the President write to the Council of the Massachusetts Bay and inform them it is the Desire of Congress that they comply with the Request of the Indians in sending them a Priest — But should not, what is now offered be thought direct to the Point in Hand Your Committee humbly conceives, that the following Resolution will shew not only that the Post at Machias is a continental Establishment, but also, That this State is fully authorized to charge the United States with the Sums already advanced or that may hereafter be advanced by this State for the Support of that Post.

Resolution on Same Subject.

In Congress Feby 15, 1781

Resolved —

"That the President inform the Governor of Massachusetts, that Congress sensible of the Importance of supporting

the Eastern Indian Department under the Superintendance of Col° John Allen approve of the Care of the executive of Massachusetts, in making from Time to Time the necessary Provision for the same, and they are requested to continue such Supplies, and charge the same to the united States. And it is further Resolved, That the Governor and Council of Massachusetts be and they hereby are impowered to compleat the Company of Artillery at the Post of Machias to a number not exceeding Sixty Five including such officers as they shall judge necessary for the further Security and Defence thereof; the said Company to be under the Command of Col° John Allen and to be raised cloathed, paid and subsisted as continental Soldiers at the Expence of the United States"

In Senate Sept 25 1781

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

Saml Adams Presi^dt

In the House of Representatives Octr 8 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock.

Petition of Elizabeth Stevens.

To the Honble the Senate & Honble the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Elizabeth Stevens of Falm° Casco Bay humbly shews that your Petitioner has a Brother in New York who is in very good Circumstances and has often sent for your Petitioner to go there and reside with him that your Petitioner has here no Friend to support her, and is in very

indigent Circumstances. Your Petitioner therefore begs Liberty to go to New York in the Cartel now ready to sail for that Place—

And as in Duty bound will pray
Elizabeth Stevens

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Sepr 14th 1781

¶ On the Petition of Elizabeth Stevens—¶ Resolved for reasons set forth in her Petition that the prayer thereof be granted, & that the said Elizabeth Stevens be & hereby is permitted to depart this State in the first Cartel for New York, not to return to this State without leave first had & obtained of the General Court; and the Naval Officer for the port of Boston is directed to see that the said Elizabeth Stevens does not carry away with her any Letters or papers detremental to this or any of the United States—

Sent down for Concurrence
S Adams Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Sept. 14, 1781
Read & Concurred
Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Saml Freeman to the Governor.

Falmouth Sept. 15 1781

May it please your Excellency: ¶ On the 30th ult. was brought before me, on suspicion of his being inimical to the United States, a Person who calls himself Joseph Gordon—He was apprehended at a Place called Ossipee, near 40 miles back of this place. and is the same Person who was just before at Limerick and supposed to be a Rogue under the Mask of

Idealism — as mention'd in the inclosd Paper No 1. ¶ The Paper No 2 is all the Account I can get of his conduct at Ossipee — I have no other acc^{t} of him than what he himself gave, before me, as contain'd in Paper N° 3.— But as it appear'd to me there was probable cause to suspect him guilty of "being adherent to the Enemies of the United States & of giving them aid and comfort within this State" and as I was inform'd that Some of the Inhabitants of our frontier Towns fear'd he was a Spy, and would have been very uneasy at his going at large: I thought it my Duty to commit him to Goal — and immediately sent to one Lieutenant Clark of Fullerstown who was robbed and for a short time made a Prisoner by some Indians and Tories who had lately been at his House there. to desire he wou'd come and see if he was one of them — Mr Clark has since been to see him, and says he is not one of them He however knew his Face and says he is a person who was sometime ago at Newton near Boston, and was suspected of being a bad Fellow but as nothing particular coud be proved against him, he was sufferd to go at large — ¶ He talks very broken, and sometimes unintelligibly — but while I was writing his Mittimus, he was reading in a Book which lay before him — & now & then I observed him to read quite plain — After getting the Answers to such Questions as I asked him I told him to give an Account of himself in his own way — but he refused & said repeatedly that none but God shou'd have any more account of him than a Sketch — and upon telling him I shou'd send him to Goal unless he gave a good account of himself, he appeared to be in a great Passion, trembled and seem'd to be full of Malice — Some have so much Charity for him as to think he is really defective in his understanding and that, being a Vagabond is his greatest Crime

I confess I have not so good an Opinion of him — But as I know of no other Evidence against him than what is con-

tain'd in the inclos'd Papers — I thought it my Duty to represent the Case to your Excellency, and shou'd be glad your Excellency wou'd direct me what to do respecting him — ¶ Perhaps if his name & an Account of his being apprehended & confin'd were published in some of the News Papers, some further knowledge of him might be had —

I am with the utmost Respect Your Excellency's most obedient & very humble Servant

Sam[l] Freeman

Gen[l] Heath to Gov. Hancock.

Head quarters, Continental village,

Sept. 17, 1781

Sir, I have received undoubted intelligence from Canada, that the enemy have for some time past been building canoes and small Batteaux at S[t] Johns, baking hard bread at Montreal and forwarding it to St Johns — And this morning I learn a brigade of troops have arrived at S[t] Johns from Quebec. This renders it very apparent that they have designs on the frontiers some where. The size of the small crafts seem calculated rather for the creeks and rivers towards the settlements on the head of Connecticut river, than to cross the lakes — If the former are the object, the militia of the northern parts of the county of Hampshire are some of the nearest to lend aid — if the latter, those of the county of Berkshire. I have written the Brigadiers commanding the Militia of those counties, lest the movements of the enemy should be sudden, requesting that if the frontiers are actually attacked, they would aid them. This I assure myself will be approved by your Excellency, until you can give such instructions as you may judge proper.

I have ordered a detachment from this army to Albany, But the importance of the posts in the Highlands, and present

state of the army forbid my making any considerable detachments to a distance, and constrain me to request that the number of militia called for from your Commonwealth in his Excellency's last letter, may be completed immediately, and the delinquent men for the regular regiments ordered on ¶ No news from the southward. ¶ I have the honor to be With the highest respect, Your Excellency's Most obedient servant W Heath.

P. S. I am just informed that a fleet of about 40 sail appeared in the Sound off Huntington, the 15. standing eastward. But whether they had troops on board, or were a wood fleet, is not known W. H.

His Excellency Governor Hancock.

Resolve Appointing John Langdon.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives September 19, 1781

Upon a Representation being made to this Court by Nath[l] Thwing Esq[r] of Woolwich That he with Dumer Sewall of Georgetown and Waterman Thomas of Thomaston Esq[rs] were appointed a Com[tee] by a Resolve of the General Court of the first of march Last to Enquire into certain facts sett forth in a Representation of the Selectmen of Boothbay, and that the said Waterman Thomas is now removed to Boston and Cannot attend said Service, Therefore ¶ Resolved — ¶ That M[r] John Langdon be and he hereby is appointed on said Com[tee] in the Room of said Waterman Thomas who is hereby Excused —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Sept[b] 20th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi[dt]

Nathl Thwing to Ezra Taylor Esq.

Woolwich Aug^st 20th 1781

Sir,

I some time since received from the Sec^ry a Copy of a Resolve of the Genl Court appointing my self, Dummer Sewall and Waterman Thomas Esq^rs a Committee to enquire into the Representation of the Selectmen of Boothbay, respecting sundry matters of said Town, but as Esqr Thomas has remov'd to Boston with his Family and Cannot attend the Business, the other two Cannot legally act in it, and it is therefore necessary some other Person should be appointed in his Room. would therefore beg of you upon your Arrival at the General Court to have some other person appointed in stead of said Thomas if you would undertake to act in it, should be glad if not — should be glad you would endeavor to have the name of John Langdon of Pownalboro inserted Your Compliance herein will oblige the Petitioners in whose Behalf, I am, Sir, your most Obed^t Servt

Nathl Thwing

Ezra Taylor Esqr Pownalbor^o

Petition of John Murray.

To the Honorable the Senate & Honorable the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled—

¶ The Petition of the Subscriber on behalf of the town of Boothbay.—Humbly Sheweth, ¶ That your Petitioner, being appointed to represent said town in this Honorable Assembly, is charged with particular instructions from his Constituents, in their name & behalf, to petition your Honors for certain favors therein specified; and it is in obedience to their injunctions that he takes this method of soliciting the atten-

tion of the Legislature to their humble and earnest requests, and begs leave to be heard on the reasons in which each of them is founded.— ¶ The peculiar share of sufferings in the public distress by which that town has been distinguished, even amongst the maritime Towns in the County of Lincoln, has been so often represented to this Honble Court, that it can hardly be supposed to be unknown to any member of it; it is therefore become the less needful to be very particular in laying the State of said town before your Honors at this time.— Nor could it give any pleasure to the generous minds that compose this Honorable Assembly to dwell on the contemplation of the accumulated hardships that have reduced that people from a hopeful and flourishing state, now to exhibit to the view of every spectator nothing but the wreck of a Community in ruins.— ¶ Situated on an inviting harbour contiguous to a navigable river on each side, this Town has been worne out with incessant alarms from the Enemy's Vessels entring — often anchoring — and not unfrequently lying for a considerable time in the road and often within Swivel Shot of the houses — during all which occasions the inhabitants were obliged to ly on their Arms; and the constant zeal in the common cause that governd all the movements of that people naturally marked them out as the special butt of distinguished vengeance from the hand of our unnatural enemy — and more especially from the plots of the more unnatural traytors amongst the settlements in our vicinity, who sleep safe in the bosom of our Country, tho' constantly busied in sucking her vital blood.— ¶ From these causes not a little of the property of said town has been reduced to ashes — all the vessels concerned in its navigation captured or destroyed — the flower of its young men, who had not been sent to the Continental Army — thus deprived of the wonted means of earning their bread — betook themselves to Privateers where, for the present, they are utterly lost to the

town, and many of them gone whence they never shall return:—while the remaining inhabitantts, too far advanced into the vale of life to be able for military employ by land or water, thus naked of any means of self defence, have been obliged to abandon their habitation in the front & remove their families into the wilderness for Shelter, whereby we may travel from end to end of the principal Settlement in the Town & be able to discover nothing but houses without inhabitants, or occupied only by widows & helpless orphans: whilst the survivors out of the number of their former possessors are forced to seek a pittance for the present subsistance of their families from the laborious cultivation of a Wilderness hitherto unsubdued: On the success of their hard tillage all their hopes of living hung: the additional judgment of heaven that has this Summer visited them with a drought the most severe ever felt in that country seems therefore to have cut up by the roots every hope arising from that quarter: as it has for the present bereft us of every prospect of the food necessary for the preservation of man or beast thro' the dreaded extremities of the approaching Winter.— ¶ It gives a Special pungency to the distresses of that people that they have made it impossible for them for the present any longer to continue that Support to Government or maintenance to the present just & necesesary war which they have ever contributed with the greatest chearfulness, & which it is as really their desire still to contribute as it is to supply their own families with the comforts of Life.—their men of ability for services are gone — money is scarce to be seen in the town.— and the necessaries of life at present seem unattainable— ¶ It would give them great pain to cry to the Legislature for their daily bread — tho' they know not from whence otherwise to expect it, & should Government See it to be duty to furnish them with any Supplies of this kind, it maybe relied on that a more necessary deed of

charity could scarcely be devised.— ¶ But whatever may be done in that case your Petitioner begs leave to assure your Honors that it is not only in conformity to his instructions that he must beg the acquittance of this Court from all demands of Men, Money — or provisions that have been made against that people as a public tax, so far as such demands remain unsatisfied: it is from Conscience that he troubles the Honorable Court with this request: he is in Conscience convinced of the utter impossibility of their complying with these requisitions, in any part, during their present circumstances: & that for the Legislature to continue such demands will appear to that people like insulting their miseries: & such continuance, after so many repeated representations of their State will effectually drive them to a State of desperation. ¶ Your Petitioner begs leave to add that he has the best reason to know assuredly that it will be impracticable to levy any of these things amongst his Constituents, & that Coercive measures taken for that purpose commonly issue in filling the county goal with prisoners to be maintained there at the public expence.— ¶ He therefore humbly Submits the Case of his distressed Constituents to the mercy of this Honble Court begging their indulgent consideration of his plea, and a favorable answer to the prayer of this Petition in their behalf — And

Your pet^r^ as in duty bound shall ever pray

John Murray

Boston Septr 20th 1781

Resolve Appointing Saml Freeman Esq.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Septr 20, 1781

Resolved That the Hon^l^ Saml Freeman Esqr be on the Committee for selling the Estates of Conspirators & Ab-

sentees in the County of Cumberland in the room of Solomon Lombard Esqr dec'd.

Sent up for concurrence Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Sep^{t} 22^{d} 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock.

Petition of Eliphelet Downer.

To The Honble the House of Representative & the Honble the Senate of the Common Wealth of the Massachusetts in General Court Assembled Septr 21 1781

The Petition of Eliphelet Downer Humbly Sheweth That Petitioner was appointed Surgeon General of the Expedition formed against Penobscutt & in the retreat though your Petitioner was so fortunate as to save the Medecine Chest being the Property of the Public he was so unfortunate as to lose his own Baggage consisting of the Articles Enumerated in the Schedule hereto annexed your Petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honors would take the premises into Consideration and as y^{r} Petitioner is Sensible that from the present unhappy state of the Finances money is not to be obtaind he therefor humbly Intreats y^{r} Hon^{rs} that such Terms as in y^{r} Wisdom shall seem meet may be ascertaind to him payable at a future Day and as in Duty Bound Shall ever pray &c

Eliphelet Downer

Petition of Stephen Hall.

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court Assembled.

¶ The Subscriber begs leave humbly to represent to the Honble Court that in the application of & at the sollicitation

of Brig^{r} Genl Wadsworth he entred the publick Service the last year & officiated with the General as Secretary in the eastern department. ¶ The General supposed from the necessity he stood in of a Secretary that a reasonable allowance would easily be made by the Honble Court on application for that purpose —

Application has not been made heretofore by reason of the General's being in Captivity. ¶ Your Memorialist therefore now prays that the Honble Court would take the matter into Consideration, & grant him such allowance, as to their Wisdom & Goodness shall seem meet.

Stephen Hall

Boston 25 Septr 1781

Resolve on Same.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Septr 27th 1781

On the Petition of Stephen Hall ¶ Resolved That Stephen Hall Esqr who was Employed as Secretary to Brig^{r} General Wadsworth from April 20th to Octr 20th 1780 in the Eastern Department, being six months, as appears from the Certificate of Brig^{r} Wadsworth received the same pay per month as a Major in said Department; and the Committee on Muster Rolls are directed to make up said Hall accordingly.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Sep^{t} 27th 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

Certificate of Wm. Todd.

I hereby Certify that after the defeat at Penobscot, Lieut.-Andrew Reed by the Order of Brig^{dr} Genl Lovell delivered a Boat with Sails the property of Mr Benj^{a} Kent of Townsend, for the purpose of an express Boat which was sent to Boston and where said Boat was some days kept by direction of the Honble Councel that in the Mean time the term of Engagement for the Men that came to Boston Expired and they all left the Boat &c and Retired to their respective places of Abode where by said Boat was Bulged & became finally destroyed the sails were about two thirds wore and the Boat about half wore

William Todd
then Brigade Major to Brig^{d} Genl Lovell

Petition of John Murray.

To the Honble Senate and Honble House Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusets.

¶ The Petition of John Murray, humbly sheweth that your Petitioner was Collector for the Town of Boothbay in the year 1779, and Receiv'd the Bill from the Assessors, for the Taxes, 1779 tax in the Year 1780, and with what Dispatch Possable Collected the same, and sent the same to the Treasurer, which did not arrive untill the circulation of the Old Emission was Stoped, and the Treasurer Refused receiving the same without a Certificate that your Petitioner recev'd the same for Taxes before the 20th July, your Petitioner, neither knew of any Resolve against takeing the Old Emission for Taxes, which has caused him a Jurney of Two hundred Miles to fetch said money, and the Treasury. Refuses to Receive the same by reason of my Receiving at port since

July 20 1781, not knowing any Resolve of this Common Wealth to the Contrary by Reason of liveing at such a Distance, and not haveing the Privalage of A Post, to our Quarter of the World, your Petitioner prays your Honors would take his matter under your Wise Consideration and Order the Treasurer to Receive the same, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

John Murray

Boston Septr 25th 1781

Certificate of Genl Wadsworth.

Boston 26th Sep^{t} 1781

This Certifies that being under a necessity of employing Some person as a Secretary in the year 1780 Mr Stephen Hall at my earnest request consented to accompany me in that Capacity in doing which he rendered not only a grateful Service to me in the Imbarrasment of my Business, but essentially served his Country. He serv'd from the 20th April to the 20 Octr 1780

Peleg Wadsworth B. G.

Petition of Ezekiel Pattee.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honble the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court to be Assembled —

¶ The Petition of Ezekiel Pattee of the Town of Winslow in the County of Lincoln, ¶ Humbly Sheweth,

That the Indians from the interior parts of Penobscot River, invited by the promise of supplies to be lodged at Fort Halifax under the superintendance of Col^{o} Brewer, left

their Habitations on s^d^ Penobscot River & came to reside with their Families in this Town the beginning of last Winter: where from the insufficiency of the promised supplies they were not only greatly disappointed in their expectations, but were also soon reduced to a starving condition & in this situation they necessarily became very troublesome to the Inhabitants, among whom your Petitioner from his living in the Neighbourhood of the Indian Encampment was a principal Sufferer as may appear from the Certificate accompanying this petition, being frequently obliged to harbor Numbers of them in his house, which at that season of the Year was peculiarly distressing to his family & in order to keep them quiet often gave them victuals without making any account of it — afterwards when the supplies sent down by Government were intirely exhausted & they could get no provisions any where else, your Petitioner at the united Request of some of the Indians & a french Priest who came with them furnished them with the several Articles of Provision borne on the annexed Schedule, for which they promised to pay him, but tho' he has repeatedly applide to the s^d^ priest for his pay yet he has not been able to obtain any satisfaction from him or the Indians — ¶Your Petitioner is therefore compelled, tho' reluctantly to address the Justice of the Honble the General Assembly and flatters himself that as nothing but an Anxious Solicitude to preserve the peace of these infant Settlements could induce him to part with the s^d^ provisions from the Necessities of his own family, your Honors will take the matter into your wise consideration & grant him payment of the s^d^ Account in the Charge of which he has endeavoured to be as reasonable as possible requesting no more than what such provisions sold for in this Town and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Ezekiel Pattee

Winslow Sep^t^ 26th 1781

Message of Gov. Hancock to General Court.

Gentlemen of the Senate and Gentlemen of the House of Representatives —

In your last Session, on application from the Deputy Quarter General praying to be enabled to transport a Quantity of Cloathing ordered by his Excellency General Washington for the Use of the Army under his Command, you was pleased to pass a Resolution to supply the Quarter Master's Department with the sum of One Thousand pounds in State Certificates which Certificates in the recess of the General Court were represented as insufficient to accomplish the designed purpose of conveying the much wanted Cloathing to the Army; Therefore upon this Representation and the absolute necessity that Rum and wet-provision should be immediately transported to the Army from Springfield the Council advised me to write to the Selectmen of several Towns in the Vicinity of Springfield in the County of Hampshire as also to the Towns of Sturbridge, Sutton, Westborough and Charlton in the County of Worcester earnestly recommending to them to afford all the assistance in their power to the Quarter Master in this particular, and that I should assure them that at the then next setting of the General Court, I would recommend the immediate payment of the Teamers who should chearfully turn out to releive the Distresses of the Army at such rates as the Teamers and the said Quarter Master should agree — The Service being thus performed it necessarily becomes my Duty, that the Good People of the Commonwealth on similar Emergencies may not be discouraged in affording their timely Assistance to acquaint you herewith earnestly recommending that provision may be made for their immediate payment which appearing so necessary and interesting to the Commonwealth — I cannot doubt of the due attention of the General Court

to this perticular ¶ I cannot omit reminding you of the necessity of the Commissary Generals Department being supplied with a Quantity of Flour in order to furnish the Garrison at Castle Island which is now destitute and more especially the Troops in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth with that Article as the Commanding Officer in that Department writes me that he shall be obliged to disband the men for want of Bread —

John Hancock

A True Copy Attest John Avery Junr Sec^{y}

Boston Sep^{t} 26th 1781

In Senate October 1st 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Joseph Dorr and Samuel Phillips jun^{r} Esq^{rs} with such as the Honorable House shall join be a Committee to take this Message into Consideration, and report what is proper to be done thereon —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^{t}

Petition of James Avery.

To the Hon'ble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of James Avery, Humbly Sheweth That your Petition was appoint by Colo John Allan his Agent to Transact all such Public Bussiness as was to be done at this place, and arrived from Machias on or about the 3^{d} of July last, & presented a Memorial from said Allan to your Honors, where in was set forth that there not having been any provisions & other Stores sent for the Garrison & Indians under his Command from Novr till May last, he was obliged to procure them from the Inhabitants of Machias, which he Engaged shoud be fully satisfyed as their Situation was such

as they could not subsist without payment, therefore Requested your Honors woud order the Amount of Eight Hundred Pounds to be paid into the hands of your Petitioner to pay off said Accounts — he allso informed your Honors that he was Directed by His Excellency the Governor to raise Sixty Men agreeable to the orders of Congress, but no mention what Bounty they were to be allowed, Upon which he Engaged to pay those that inlisted During the War a Bounty of Twelve Guineas & gave Certificates for the same, Copy of which is hereunto Annex'd & requested your Honors wou'd be pleased to order the same Discharged — which Memorial was Committed to a Committee, but no report made & is not at present to be found — Therefore your Petitioner Humbly Prays your Honors woud be pleased to Take the foregoing into your wise Consideration & Take such order thereon as in your Wisdom may thing requisit & your petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray

Ja^s Avery

Boston Sepr 27, 1781

Form of Certificate given Soldiers for Bounty —

Indian Eastern Departm^t Machias 1781

These are to Certifie that ——— has Inlisted into the Service of the United States in this Departm^t in the Core Known by the Name of the Artillery Company during the present War with Great Britain for which he is promised a Bounty of Twelve Guineas, Which sum the Subscriber engages to pay said ——— or his order as Witness my hand

(Sign'd) John Allan C G Off:

These are to Certifie the above mentioned ——— has inlisted in the Service of the United States during the War above Express'd & has pass'd Muster agreeable to the Rules of the Continental Army.

(Sign'd) James Avery Muster Master

J. Avery to Saml Freeman Esq.

Council Chamber Sep^t 27, 1781

Sir

Your Letter of the 15 of Septemb Ins^t with the Inclosures respecting one Joseph Gordon his Excellency communicated to Council this Day and Asked their Advice thereon — and having taken Said Papers into Consideration I was directed to inform you that it was their Opinion that you must be the most competent Judge in this Matter and that you must deal with him as to Law & Justice appertaineth —

I am Sir Your very humb^l Servt

J Avery Sec^y

Hon^l Saml Freeman Esq —

Aug 30, 1781

Examination of a Person who calls himself Joseph Gordon

Quest. What is your Name?

Ans. Joseph Gordon. Son of James Gordon

Q. What Countryman are you?

A. A Scotchman — I was born in the Shire of Karcudbury

Q. How long have you been in this Country?

A. About half a Score Years — two or three Years at Albany & Schenectady — & I have been at Boston and Hartford —

Q. What part of the Country did you first come to?

A. New York

Q. What Ship did you come in?

A. Her name was Queen Mary

Q. Who was the Master of the Ship?

A. They called his name Fisher

Q. When was you at Boston?

A. The last of July —

Q. What Business do you follow?

A. I have been loitering about, through Idleness — but I believe it will be for no good.

Q. Was you brot up to no Trade?

A. I am a Preacher

Q. Are you a married Man?

A. No.

Q. Was you ever at Quebec?

A. I do not think I ever was there

Q. Was you ever at Limerick?

A. I cannot tell.

The Deposition of Bartholomew Jackson who sayeth on Saterday Last being Augt 25 — He was at work at one of his Nieabours, viz: at Mr David Elkins and about 6 oclock in ye afternoon a Man came to said Elkins House, and Mrs Elkins told me that he asked her for Sum Vittles, and She being afraid of said man She came to her Husband & me: we being near the House: and asked us to go into ye House for there was a man their & she could not understand what he said, & when I got into ye House I asked the man where he came from, and he Talked So broken English that I could not understand him at first: but afterwards I understud him that he came from Pigwacket, that morning, then I asked him which way he came & he said threw the Bush. Then I thought he was a Roage: & asked him hough he got over the River, and he signefied to me that he got over on Sum Stiks or Logs: and I knew that to be falce — Excepting he made a Raft, then Mr Elkins & I sent for the Neighbours & James Brackit, & his Two Brothers & James Grant came, and then I Examined him again and he said his name was Joseph Gordin but he would give no account what his business was nor tel whare he was going, & after he had Eat his Supper he got up & was going away and then we thought best to Stop him & send him to Pearsontown the next day Abraham

Bracket and my self came away with him and got more then one mile & he wanted to go back and git his Cloaths which before he had told us he had none: so we sent him to Pearsontown —

Bartholomew Jackson

Pearsontown Septr 1 — 1781

Cumberland Ss —

Pearsontown Septr 1– 1781

¶ The within named Bartholomew Jackson made oath to the Truth of the foregoing Deposition before me

Eph^{m} Jones Just^{s} Peace

Resolve in Favor of John Murray.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Septr 29th 1781

on the Petition of John Murry in behalf of the Town of Boothbay — being under many distressed Circumstances as sett forth in Said Petition. Resolved: that the Prayer of the Petition be so far Granted that the Treasurer of this CommonWealth be and he hereby is directed not to Issue his Execution Against the Collector or Collectors of the Town of Boothbay for any Sum or Sums of Money that are Assest on the Inhabitants of said Town as their proportion of the Taxes of this Commonwealth untill the further Order of the General Court —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 1st 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of John Murray.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Sept 29-1781

on the Petition of John Murry Collector for the Town of Boothbay in the year 1779 Praying the General Court to Order the Treasurer to receive the Monyes by him Collected —¶ Resolved that the Treasurer of this Common Wealth be and he is hereby directed to Receive of John Murry Collector for the Town of Boothbay the Monyes Collected by him[A] as that Towns Proportion of the State tax for the Year 1779. on his making Oath that he Collected the said Money before he had any knowledge of the Resolve of this Court which past Prohibiting the Collectors from Receiving any of the Old Emistion after the 20 of July any Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Oct 1781

Read & Concurr'd with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi[dt]

at A, in Bills of the old Emission

In the House of Representatives Oct. 4, 1781.

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of Soldiers.

In the house of Representatives October 2 1781

Resolve that there be paid out of the treasury of this Commonwealth in Specie to Cap[t] Pinkham three pounds twelve Shillings p[r] Month to his Lieu[t] three pounds to a Serg[t] two

pounds to a Private one pound Sixteen Shillings p^{r} Month and for there Rations Eight pence p^{r} day for Each officer and Private for the month they were in Service

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate October 2^{d} 1781

Read & Concurred as taken into a new Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Octr 8, 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of Soldiers.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Octr 2^{d} 1781

Resolved that there be paid out of the Treasury of this Commonwealth in specie, to Captain Ichabod Pinkham, and nineteen others named in said Roll, raised by the Town of Boothbay, for the defence of the Sea Coasts, for one Month, being from the 24th of March to the 24th of April A D. 1781, Viz^{t} to the Capt three pounds twelve Shillings, to the Lieutenant Three pounds, to the Sergeants two pounds each And to each Private One pound Sixteen Shillings, for the Service of the Month aforesaid; And that there be also paid Eight pence p^{r} Day to Each of said Officers & privates in lieu of Rations, while in said Service & that said Roll be made in Conformity to said Establishment, & exhibited to the Committee on Pay Rolls for examination & allowance

Petition Selectmen of Lincoln.

To the Honble Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Lincoln Humbly Sheweth ¶ That by a Resolve of the General Court Pass^d^ June 5th 1780 the said town was Called upon to procure Eleven Men to Reinforce the Continental Army for the term of Six months under the penalty of a fine of three Hundred Pounds for Each Deficiency That your Petitioners understanding that said towns just proportion of the Reinforcement to be raised by said Resolve was but ten men according to The Rule by which the appointment was made and That the Eleventh man was added through a mistake of The Committee who made the same, Presented a petition to the General Court then Setting to be excused from Raising one of the men called for but were told that an Alteration at that time would be attended with inconveniences but that the town must be Considered when the fines for Deficiencies Should be Called for in the Next tax act —

Your Petitioners beg leave further to shew, That by A Resolve Pass'd the 23^d^ Day of the Same Month, the several Towns therein mentioned were Required to Raise an additional Number of men equal to one fourth part of the number Required by the Resolve of the 5th of June aforesaid, and if A fraction of three remained after taking one fourth part of the number Called for in any town Such town was Required to procure a man on account of Such fraction, The number required of the town of Lincoln being through Mistake as aforesaid, Eleven, made a fraction of three And of Consequence required a second man more then the Just proportion of said town, Your Petitioners have been informed that when the last Tax Act was made Circumstances did not admit of a Distant Confederation of the Complaint of particu-

lar Town but that it was the Determination of The Honble Court to Consider Such Complaints upon Special Application, Consequently the Town of Lincoln is fined in the last Tax act for not raising the two men aforesaid The Sum of four pounds Each in specie — ¶ We therefore in behalf of the Town aforesaid Humbly Pray your Hon^{rs} to take their Case into Consideration and Permit the fines aforesaid or otherwise relieve the town as you in your wisdom & justice shall think proper, and as in Duty Bound shall ever pray —

Abijah Pierce
John Hartwell
David Fisk
} Selectmen of Lincoln

Lincoln Octr 3^{d} 1781

In Senate October 9th 1781

Read & thereupon Ordered that Israel Nichols and Joseph Hosmer Esq^{rs} with such as the Honble House may join be a Committee to consider this Petition and report what is proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Octr 16, 1781

Read & concurred & Mr Harrington, Mr Brown of Concord & Col Peck are joined

Nath Gorham Speaker

Resolve in Favor Selectmen of Lincoln.

The Committee of Boath Houses Appointed to Consider the Petition of the Selectmen of Lincoln, Praying that said Town may be Excused from a fine of Eight Pounds Required of Said Town in the last Tax Act through Mistake, ask Leave to Report by way of Resolve

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ Resolved, that the Prayer of the Petition be Granted, and that the Committee on the Present Tax Bill, be Directed, to

Creadit the Town of Lincoln the Sum of Eight Pounds, being the Sum Required of Said Town, in the Last Tax Act, as a fine for the Deficiency of two men Set to Said Town Through Mistake

In Senate Oct 20 1781

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid[t]

In the House of Representatives

Oct[r] 22, 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

To Pay Teamsters and Grant Warrant to Com. General.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct[r] 4 1781

Resolved, that the Governor be & he hereby is requested to order the Accounts of the Teamers, who of late, on his Application, assisted the Deputy Quartermaster General in transporting Stores to the Army, to be laid before the [A] House for allowance & payment out of the next State Tax. ¶ Resolved, that [B] the Governor be, and he hereby is requested to grant a Warrant on the Treasurer in favour of [C] the Commissary General the sum of two hundred & fifty pounds, to enable him to supply Flour for the Garrison at Castle Island, & the Troops in the Eastern Department. [D] —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

Mr. Brown 23[d] ins[t] }

In Senate October 4th 1781

Read & Committed

Octob 9th Read & Concurred with Amendments at A B & D at A dele House & insert General Court at B dele from B

to C & insert, there be allowd & paid out of the publick Treasury to at D insert, he to be accountable for the same

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi^dt

In the House of Representatives Oct 16, 1781

Read & Concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

T. D. Street to Serg^t Burns.

Fort Howe 5th Oct: 1781

Serg^t Burns

I have just time to write you an Account of my Safe Arrival here about five Weeks Since & request you'll acquaint our Friend in Boston that I am arrived safe & have procured the Release of the person he mentioned to me when we parted — if he was not gone from Halifax before my Arrival here — Major Studholm has two Rebel prisoners here, who will not be released on any pretence whatever untill your Return — I have Wrote to Halifax a particular Account of the Treatment of our prisoners in Boston & have no doubt but it will be properly attended to — Continue to despise the Rascalls around you & you will allways be superior to them — laugh at their Villainous & unmanly Oppression & remember that whilst I have existence, not an Injury you feall shall remain unreveng'd — inclosed is a Letter which I beg you'll convey to Capt Leake by a safe hand as privately as possible — I remain Your Friend

T D Street Lt R. F. S.

Serg^t Burns. ¶ P. S. Write to me by every Opportunity — Your Wife is well & in good Health as well as the rest of your Friends here

T. D. S.

T. D. Street to Robt Leake.

Fort Howe 5th Oct: 1781

Dear Sir

I arrived here about five weeks since, having escaped from the prison Ship, as I suppose you have heard — ¶ Instantly on my Arrival at Penobscot I represented your Case in its proper light & have Strained every Presure in your Behalf; I hope not without Effect — On my Arrival here I wrote to Halifax on the same Subject to a Gentleman who will pay Attention to your Situation — I have also Stated the General Treatment of prisoners in Boston & I think the Rebel prisoners in Halifax have e're this, felt the Rod of Retaliation — pray tell my good friend Crocker, if he is still near you, that I have done the same for him — the least recompense I could make for his Civilities during my Confinement — May God bless you both & shower down his Curses on your Oppressors — rely on it such prisoners will be detained for you both in Halifax as will secure your Exchange in spite of those Villains who wish to detain you & untill that Exchange takes place, let your behavior convince those dastardly wretches around you that themselves and their Cause are equally Villainous & Contemptible. I remain

Dear Leake Your sincere Friend

T. D. Street Lt R F. S.

Capt Robt Leake.

Petition of Amos Lincoln.

To whom it may Concern Boston Octobr 8th 1781

To the Honorable Senate and house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts in General Coart Assembled —

The Petition of Amos Lincoln Captain of a Company of Matrosses in the Service of the Commonwealth — Humbly

Showeth that your Honours on April 18th 1781 did direct the Committee of Supplies of Cloathing for this Commonwealth to Supply me with a suite of Cloaths and Blanketts for each man that I had in my Compy then, which was Twenty six, since I have five Inlisted into Said Compy: which are in great want of Cloathing and Blankets your Petitioner Humbly Pray your Honours will be please to give the said Committee Orders to Deliver Cloathing and Blankets upon my Making a Return to them of the men that is inlisted into said Compy as in Duty bound will ever Pray

Amos Lincoln Capt

Boston Octr 9 1781

On the Petition of Amos Lincoln Captain of a Company of Matrosses in the Service of the Commonwealth Resolved that the Committee of Supplies be, and they are hereby Directed to Supply Captain Amos Lincoln with Cloathing for five Men, Inlisted by him, and any others that may Inlist hereafter on his making a Return thereof agreeable to a Resolve of April 18: 1781

Appointment of Committee.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate October 9th 1781

Ordered that Jedidiah Preble and Aaron Wood Esqrs with such as the Honble House may join be a Committee to take into consideration and report the number of men necessary to be retained in the Service, as Guards of the Sea Coast—

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presidt

In the House of Representatives Octr 16, 1781

Read & concurred & Col. Gerrish Genl Lovell & Genl Titcomb are joined

Nath Gorham Speaker

The Committee of both Houses to take into consideration and report the number of men necessary to be Retained in the Service as Guards of the Sea Coast have Considered that Matter and take leave to Report the following Resolve vizt —

Jedidiah Preble p^{r} order

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ Resolved that the Guards stationed at Falmouth and Cape Elizabeth consisting of one Serjeant and twelve Matrosses and the Guard at Marble Head consisting of one Serjeant and four Matrosses be retained and Continued untill the First day of March next upon the same Establishment Made in the Resolve of Feb^{r} 20 — 1781 — and it is further Resolved that the Guard at Plum Island: Glouster: Beverley: Salem: and the Gurnet: be forth with Discharged: and the Commander in Chief be desired to Dismiss them accordingly: and give Such Orders as he shall think proper for Securing the Cannon and Stores belonging to this Common wealth: in the Fourts on Plum-Island: Glouster: Beverley Salem. and the Gurnet —

In Senate Novr 2 1781

Read & accepted

Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presi^{dt}

In the House of Representatives Nov. 2, 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial of Lapham and Thomas.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts To the Honourable Senate and House of Repres^{a} In General Court Assembled —

Humbly Shews — Joseph Lapham and Benj^{a} Thomas Both of Marshfield in the County of Plimouth that they Were

Both Impressed on the 12th Day of July 1779 and Put on Board the Ship Warren and in a few Days Sailed for Penobscot in Which Expidition they and Each of them were seven weeks Before we Got Home in Which Time we underwent Grate Hardships and have never Received any thing for our Services Wherefore Your Petitioners Pray that your Honours Would Take our Case into your Wise Consideration and Grant us Such Recompense for our Time and Services as you in your Grate Wisdom shall think Just and Reasonable and as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray —

Joseph Lapham Benjamin Thomas

Plim° Ss. Octr ye 13th 1781

then the above named Joseph Lapham and Benja Thomas Both Personally appeared and made oath that the facts set forth in the above Petition are True Before

Jn° Turner Justice Peace

John Allan to the Governor.

Indian Eastern Department, Machias October 17th 1781

Sir

My last I had the Honor of Writing your Excellency, was of the 6th Inst then Acquainted your Excellency the situation of the Department, allso that a Number of Inhabitants of Goldsboro & Places Adjacent, Encouraged by the promises made By the Enemy at St Johns were going there, to aid & assist in Loading the Mast Ships — In Consequence I have taken Every Step in my Power to send Word to Indians & others to Intercept them —

Great number of the Indians which went to St Johns are Returned into the Lakes Back of Passamaquody, I Dread much their Coming in Here, in Our present situation, shall do Every thing in my Power to keep up their Spirits &

secure their Interest, A Considerable Number have been in at times lately —

Capt Preble Major Stillman & some others at Passamaquody surprised a Boat & seven men from St Johns Going to Baguaduce, By whom found the within Letters, As it Concerns Prisoners, thot Best to forward them Street is the officer taken Last Spring & Sent up in the French frigate, He made His Escape a short time Ago from the Prison Ship ¶ Two large mast ships are still at St Johns Loading — a Number of Deserters and others lately from Nova Scotia, heard nothing material only fortifying Halifax strong —

Mr Low late Master of the Defence with 18 men, who went up the Bay By Order of Capt Nevens, has since returned, having been attacked By the Militia — Two men taken, the Rest made their Escape thro' the woods to Cape Sable, from thence Bro^{t} over here By some French Accadians —

The situation of this Department Is now Truely Lamentable such that I am Convinced Did your Excellency see it, would have much Pity ¶ The season of the Year Being Over for any Danger, And as I trust and Rely the War near a Conclusion, And it appearing not meterial to have an Officer of my ranque at this Post, should I not be permited to Go soon to the westward — Pray the Dismission from my Military Command of this Place — During the time I may Continue with the Indians, It will be more Advantageous, to Be on the Lakes of Passamaquody in the Center of their Haunt, But at the same time, must put your Excellency in remembrance of my going Westward ¶ I have the Honour to Be, with the Greatest Respect

Your Excellency's most obed^{t} and very hble Servt

J Allan

In Senate Octr 31st 1781

Read & sent down

S Adams Presid^{t}

Resolve in Favor of Falmouth Soldiers.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Octr 17 1781

Whereas on the 3^{d} Septr 1779 the Council of this then State Ordered three hundred men to be detached in the County of Cumberland, & marched to Falmouth for the defence of that part of the State, to be on such Establishment as the General Court should afterwards order; and whereas no Establishment has yet been made for s^{d} men; therefore, "Resolved, that the Officers & Soldiers, who marched to Falmouth, & did duty in Consequence of s^{d} Order be on the same Establishment, & be entitled to receive the same pay, as the Officers & Soldiers, who served in the eastern department the last year, & there did duty under the Command of Brig^{r} General Wadsworth: And the Committee on Rolls are hereby directed to pass the pay Rolls for s^{d} men accordingly

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Oct. 17 1781

Read & Concurred S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Thomas Starrett.

To the Honor^{l} Senate & House of Representatives for the Common Wealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of Thomas Starrett Col. of the Fourth Regim^{t} in the County of Lincoln in behalf of the Inhabitants of the Eastern part of Said County Humbly Sheweth

That the said Inhabitants are in a Peculiar Manner Exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy, and the Insults of the Disaffected who Still reside amongst them; and although the Government have Voted & been at the Expence of Raising & Supporting a Considerable Number of Men for the Defence

of the Eastern Country Yet Such has been the Disposition of that Force (being Stationed at the Western Part of the County of Lincoln that the Eastern Part of said County which is most Exposed Derives no more Protection from them than if they were Stationed in the County of Berkshire, Thus are they Left to be Insulted and Ravaged by the Enemy, and Insultingly Told by the Toreys that the Government have given them up and Dont mean to Protect any Part of the County below Kenebeck Thus Circumstanced Your Petitioner begs your Honors to take their Deplorable Case into your wise Consideration & grant Such Relief as the good of the Common Wealth & their Circumstances Requires, and Your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray

Thomas Starrett

Octo^{r} 18th 1781

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Oct 19, 1781

Read & thereupon ordered That Col^{l} Taylor, Genl Lovell & Mr Hall with such as the Hon^{l} Senate shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration, & report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Oct 19 1781

Read & Concurred & Jedediah Preble & Eliezer Brooks Esqr are joyned S Adams Presid^{t}

Caleb Graffam to General Court.

To the Hon^{o} Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ Humbly shews Caleb Graffam of Windham in the County of Cumberland Gentleman, that in order to support a petition by him some time since to use a certain list of

Assessments made by the assessors of Windham of a penny halfpenny tax so called granted by the General Court up on the unimproved lands in said Windham as also ye Notification for the sale of Delinquent proprietors lands, both which papers are now on file in the Secretary's office, that those papers are necessary to enable him to support an action by review to be heard at ye next supreme Judicial Court to be held for said County of Cumberland — Wherefore he humbly prays the Secretary may be directed to deliver them to your petitioner he leaving Copies of the same, & he as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Caleb Graffam

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate October 20, 1781

On the Petition of Caleb Graffam ¶ Resolved, That the Secretary be, & he hereby is directed to deliver out of his Office to Caleb Graffam, certain papers on File, which contain the List of Assessments made by the Assessors of the Town of Windham and the said Graffam's Notification for the sale of delinquent Proprietor's Lands in said Town; The said Graffam previously furnishing said Office with attested Copies of the same.—

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi^dt^

In the House of Representatives Oct 22, 1781

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Certificate of Stephen Smith.

Machias October 23 1781

These may certify that Robert Foster Lait Quarter Master to the Troops Stationed at & for the Defence of Machias

Drew No Rations from the Commissarys Store in this place from the twenty third Day of January one thousand seven hundred & Seventy Eight until the Sixteenth Day of May then next following per

Stephen Smith

Resolve in Favor John Blunt.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In house of Representatives Octr 24, 1781

On the representation of John Lucas Commissary of Continental Pentioners, in behalf of John Blunt Lieu^{t} in Co^{l} Hitchcock^{s} Reg^{t} who was Wounded on long Island ye 27th of August 1776, also was Wounded at the landing at Major-bigwayduce, in August 1779 when as Capt in Genl Lovels Corps [A] ¶ Resolved That the said John Blunt is Intitled to one Quarter pay as a Capt to Commence from the [B] first day of January 1781 [C] and to continue 'till the farther order of the General Court—

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Oct 30 1781

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A & B

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presi^{dt}

¶ at A. insert whereby his Right Arm is renderd in a great measure useless ¶ at B dele from B to C & insert Sixth of September one thousand seven hundred & eighty

Read & Concurred

N Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Certificate Accompanying Above.

Boston June 19th 1781

These Certify that John Blount Was Wounded through the Shoulder in making the landing at Major Bagaduce, which he informs me is yet unwell, and is Still an Invalide

Solomon Lovell

To the Commissary of Pentioners

Tiverton Sepr 1st 1778

I here by certifie that the Barer Lt Jno Blunt was a Lieut in Colo Hitchcocks Regt of which I was Lt Colo and he was wounded and taken Prisoner on Long Island on the Twenty Seventh day of August 1776 during the time he remained with the Regt he was brave

Ezek Comell

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Common Wealth —

¶ John Lucas In behalf of John Blunt a Lieut in Colo Hitchcocks Regt & who was wounded on Long Island 27th Augt 1776 Also who was wounded in Augt 1779 when a Captain at the landing at Majorbigwayduce all wh Appears by his Certificates

John Lucas Comsry

Pension Office at Boston 24th Sept 1781

Boston Octr 16th 1781

These certify that Capt John Blunt was wounded (in making the landing at Majorbigwaduce on the 28th of July in year 1779 in his right Shoulder which Wound has in a great measure deprived him of Use of his said Arme

Doctr Elipt Downer

Memorial of Ezra Taylor.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

October 24th 1781

To the Honorable the Senate and house of Representatives in Gener[l] Court Assembled

The Memorall of Ezra Taylor of Pownalboroh In the County of Lincoln In behalf of James Goud one of the Constables of Said Town for the year 1780 — ¶ Humbly shews ¶ That your memoralist has now in his possession Five Thousand six hundred & Twenty three dollars of the old Emission which was sent To the Treasury of this Common Wealth the beginning of August Last, and that your Memorialist has the oath of said Constable duely Taken, that he received said money on the Taxes Comited to him to Colect & that he received the greatest part of said sum before the Twentieth day of July Last & the residue on said day & that the whole of said bills was received before he had any kind of Knowledge or Intimation of the Resolve passed on the third day of the same July restraining Constables from the Takeing said bills, that your memorialist has presented said bills to the Treasurer of this CommonWealth with the Oath afore said, that the s[d] Treasurer refused to Take the said bills — ¶ Wherefore your memorialist prays the Interposition of this Honra[ble] Court that the said Constable may be relieved in such way and maner as the Wisdom & Justice of this Honra[ble] Court Shall Direct. and in duty bound shall &c

Ezra Taylor

Pownalboro July 24 – 1781

James Goud one of the Collectors of Taxes in the Town of Pownalborough for the year 1780 on Oath deposeth and saith That the Sum of five thousand six hundred & twenty three

Dollars in the old Emission deliver'd Jon^{a} Bowman Esq. on the twentieth instant to be paid into the Treasury of this Commonwealth he the said James realey and truly received in payment of the Taxes committed to him to collect — and that he received the greater part of said Sum before the twentieth day of July instant, and the Residue upon said twentieth of July inst. and none since — And that the whole was received by him before he had any kind of Knowledge or Intimation of the passing a Resolve of the General Court on the third of July inst. requiring the Collectors to make Oath that they rec'd it before the 20th of July.—Before

Jon^{a} Bowman Just Peace

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives November ye 2, 1781

on the petition of Ezra Taylor in behalf of James Goud one of the Collectors of the town of Pownalboroh praying for the Interposition of the General Court respecting the payment of a Sum of money which he the said Collector had collected for the use of this Commonwealth as Sett forth in his petition ¶ Resolved that the Treasurer be and hereby is directed to receive of Ezra Taylor the Sum of five thousand Six hundred and Twenty three Dollars old Emission and Credit the aforesaid James Goud Collector of Pownalborouh for the Same, he having rec^{d} part of said money on the twentieth of July notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Novr 2 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock.

Action on Petition Thomas Starrett.

October 30 1781

The Committe of both Houses to whome was referd, the consideration of the Petition of Thomas Starret, have met & attended that Service, and as Co^{ll} McCobb was in this Town who Commands the Troops, Stationed in the County of Lincoln they inquiered of him, rellative to the expedency of Sending more Troops for the defence of that County he inform^{d} them that it was his opinion that the Troops now in that County would answer as the seeson of the year ware so fare advanc^{d} it is therefore the opinion of the Comm^{tt} that the Petitioner have Leave to withdraw his Petition

Jedidiah Preble p order

In Senate Oct 30 1781

Read & accepted & thereupon Orderd that the Petitioner have Leave to withdraw his Petition

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^{t}

Petition Selectmen Town of Gorham.

To his Excellency the Governor, The honourable Senate and house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusets in General Court assembled

The Petition of the Selectmen of the Town of Gorham with Edward Anderson Agent in behalf of the Town of Windham Benjamin Mussey Agent in behalf of the Inhabitants of Person Town and Enoch Perley Agent in behalf of the Proprietors Bridgton, Humbly Sheweth That the Inhabittants of the Towns and Plantations adjoyning the Stream known by the name of Pesumpscut River, Labours

under Many Grievances which appears too great Silently to be Bourn That s^d River has in times Past been Remarkable for being frequented by Shad Bass Salmon &c — That about Forty years Since there was a Dam Erected across s^d River whereby the free Course of the fish was obstructed, and Since that time there has been a Number of others Built whereby the Fish are Intirely Deprived of the use of s^d River —

That this honourable Court has been repeatedly petitiond for the Redress of s^d Grievance but nothing has been Enacted that has Removd the Same

The Prayer of your Petitioners therefore is that the Honourable Court would appoint a Committee that Shall Cause Good and Sufficient fish Courses to be made through the Several Dams on S^d River, or point out Such meathods as they in their wisdom Shall Judge best that all obstructions in S^d River may be Removed and the Fish Injoy the Previlege of the Stream as usual —

The Reasons why the Prayer of this Petition Should be Granted are That the Inhabitants of the Plantations adjoyning S^d Stream are many of them but in a State of infancy with Respect to Settlements and their Cultivations but Small that Renders it Difficult for them to Procure the absolute Necessaries of Life in these Sircumstances a Plenty of Fish comeing Even to their own Doors would Greatly contribute to their Support and not only to Such Plantations but to the Inhabittants of those Towns that are in more affluant Sircumstances would the advantage be Very considerable Especially to those on the Sea Shore who Depend on the Cod fishery. For it is well known that the small Fish Running in Shore for Fresh water Streams Draw the Cod after them. And as our Fishing Craft by Reason of Brittish Cruisers are in these years confind to narrow Limits, it makes it more Expedient that all Streams Should be opend where Fish have been wont to frequent, for it appears to be a grievance

that ought no longer Quietly to be Bourn that one great Source of life which Nature has provided for Publick use Should be Destroyed to Serve the Intrest of a Few individuals as your Petitioners in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray

Edwd Phinny } Selectmen of
Wm Gorham } Gorham

Edward Anderson }
Benjn Mussey } Agents
Enoch Perley }

Gorham in the County of Cumberland
October ye 30th 1781

Petition of Joseph McLellan.

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives of the Common Wealth

Joseph McLellan, Humbly Sheweth that the State is Indebted to him for a Sloop & her Hier to the Amount of Twenty nine Hundred pound in 1779 as Appears, by Charter party 2^{d} July your memorialist begs he may now be supply'd with a Cable and Ankor from the States Store, as he your memorialist is Informed by the State Agent their is in Store Such this things as he prays for—¶

Joseph Mclellan

Boston 30th Oct. 1781

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Novr 1 1781

On the Memorial & Petition of Joseph McLellan, praying that he may be supplyed with a Cable & Anchor from the State Store, in part payment for a Sloop & her hire, which Sloop was Destroyed in the State Service at Penobscott in the year 1779; ¶ Resolved, that the prayer of the petition be so far granted, that in Case there is in the State Store such

Cable & Anchor as prayed for, then Caleb Davis Esqr Agent for this Commonwealth be, & he hereby is impowered & directed to supply s^{d} McLellan therewith; s^{d} McLellan to account for s^{d} Cable & Anchor on the Charter party at the price agreed to by the Agent.

Sent up for concurrence

Nat Gorham Speaker

In Senate Novr 2 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^{dt}

Approv'd John Hancock.

Resolve in re Petition of James Avery in Behalf Col. Allan.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives 31 October 1781

on the Petition of James Avery in Behalf of Col^{n} John Allan of Machias Praying for the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds to Inable him to Discharge Sundry Depts Contracted on Act of the Continent and that the Warrants s^{d} Allan has on The Treasury for money of the New Emission Drawn some Time Since May be Discharg'd in Hard Money ¶ and that the Committee of Machias be Impowered to Assess these Inhabitants with a Sum of Money Eaqual to the Depts they owe Goverment — ¶ Resolved that there be paid out of the Treasury of this Common Wealth to Col^{n} John Allan the Sum of eight hundred pounds and the Same be Charg'd to the United States s^{d} Allan be Accountable for the Expenditure of the Same — ¶ and it is Further Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & he hereby is Directed to Discharge the Warrant Drawn in Col^{n} Allan^{s} Favour in Novr Last — in Hard Money at the Rates of one Silver Dollar for one

& Seven Eighths of the new Emission ¶ and it is further Resolved that the Committee of Machias for the Time being be & they hereby are Authorized and Impowered to Assess on the Polls and Estates of the Inhabitants of Machias the Sum of Money Which by the scale of depretiation is Dew from them to Goverment Eaqual to Each Persons Dept and s^d^ Committee are hereby Directed to Collect the Same as Soon as maybe and Lodge the same in the Treasurers Office of this Commonwealth and Take Duplicate Recp^t^ for the Same one to be Lodged in the Secretary's office aney Law or Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Nov. 2 1781

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presi^dt^

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve on the Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

By His Excellency the Governor

You are, by and with the Advice and Consent of Council, ordered and directed to pay unto Mr James Avery for the Use of Col^o^ John Allen of Machias ¶ the Sum of Eight hundred pounds to enable him to discharge Sundry Debts contracted on Acco^t^ of the Continent — the same to be charged to the United States — said Allen to be accountable for the Expenditure of the same by a Resolve passed the 2^d^ Novr 1781 ¶ for which this shall be your war-

rant ¶ Given under my Hand at Boston, the twentieth Day of Novr 1781 the sixth year of American Independence

John Hancock

To Hon Henry Gardner Esqr Treasurer

¶ By Order of the Governor with the Advice and Consent of Council

John Avery Sec^{ry}

Decr 14th 1781 Rec^{d} Fifty One pounds on acc^{t} of the within

Ja^{s} Avery

Decr 24th 1781 Rec^{d} one hundred & Two pounds

Jas Avery

" 29 1781 Rec^{d} one hundred & Two pounds

Ja^{s} Avery

1782 Jany 8th Rec^{d} Two hundred & forty four pounds Sixteen Shillings on acc^{t} of the within —

Jas Avery

Feby 13 Rec'd three hundred pounds four Shillings in full

Jas Avery

James Avery's Petition in Behalf of Col. Allan.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Petition of James Avery Agent for Colonel John Allan Comd^{t} at Machias ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That in November last yours Honors were pleased to order Warrents to be Drawn on the Treasurer for the Payment of the Troops and other Expences of that Department, there being very little Money in the Treasury at that Time the said Warrents cou'd not be Discharged, and Col^{o} Allan having Drawn orders on your Petitioner to a Large Amount besides the paying the Men's Wages & other Expences of the Schooner Neashquowoite, he was obliged to

borrow Large Summs of Money of A number of persons to pay them, which your Petitioner stands personally Indebted for and is daily pressd to Discharge them — Likewise the Currency having greatly Depreciated, those that have advanced Expects to have it made good — ¶ Therefore your Petitioner Humbly prays your Honors woud be pleased to take the foregoing facts into your wise Consideration & grant such relief as in your Wisdom and Justice may think fit — and your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Jas Avery

Boston Sepr 12th 1781

Memorial of John Allan in re Liquidation of Debts.

Indian Eastern Department Machias June 20th 1781

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Memorial of John Allan Continental Superintendent & Commander in Chief of Indian Eastern Department.

Your Memorialist is under the Necessity of Troubling your Honors again for Assistance to Enable him to Discharge the Debts Contracted for the Public Service,— your Mem^{lst} having received Instructions the last fall & this Spring to Support the Department as Usual, both in securing the Interest of the Indians & Defending the Country, no Supplys having arrived for some time and the different Movements of the Enemy, as well as the Unsteady Conduct of the Indians, was Compelled to procure supplys under great Disadvantages to Enable him to Execute the Necessary Duty — your Honors having been so Indulgent as to order £600 new Emission last February for the same purpose your memo^{lst}

was thereby Enabled to Discharge some part, but by the Depreciation, with Matters Contracted since Makes the Amount more Considerable ¶ Your Memorialist having Called in & Settled all Acc^{ts} of this Department Contracted here, Ballances Stands due to several persons About the Sum of Eight Hundred Pounds in Specie, for which your Mem^{list} has granted Certificates to Each person for the Amount due them & by the Promises made to the said persons your Mem^{lst} is Sacredly Bound to see them Discharged as soon as Possible,— Your Memorialist having solicited for permission to go Westward to settle all his Accounts as allso to make Reports & Communicate Necessary Matters to the Several Departments he is accountable to, Defers for that Reason Transmiting to your Honors by this Opportunity the said Accounts, Therefore Humbly Prays at this time that your Honors wou'd be pleased to order to be paid into the Hands of Mr James Avery Acting Agent of this Department the sum of Eight Hundred Pounds value in hard money for the purpose aforesaid. ¶ Your Memorialist has allso Engaged a Chaplin for the Use of the Eastern Indians, whose behavour & Conduct has been of the Most Assential Service in Securing the Indian Interest, by the Indulgence of the French Admiral he has Continued, and from the Various & feteagueing bussiness he has to persue your Mem^{list} Fixed his salery as low as in Justice Cou'd Possibly be, His being a Subject & in the Service of the Illusterous Ally of America, your Mem^{list} has Endeavour'd to make every thing as Agreeable & as Comfortable as his Situation wou'd Admit, Promising allso full Satisfaction shoud be made without Deminution, Must Therefore Humbly request, that said Chaplin May have his Salary Confirm'd & ordered to be paid in its full Value,— An Interpreter was allso Employ'd in Boston by the Honble Council which during his Time of Service it is allso requested may be paid, as there is no fur-

ther Occation for a French Interpreter, have Discharged him the Service — ¶ Your Memorialist with the most profound Duty & respect Submits the whole to your Honors Wisdom & Determination

J Allan.

Petition in Behalf Inhabitants Machias.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ The Petition of James Avery in behalf of the Inhabitants of Machias — ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That said Inhabitants at the Commencement of the present War rec^d^ Considerable Summs of Money from the Public to relieve them in their distress'd Situation — by a late Resolve, all who stand Indebted to the Public are call'd upon for settlement, your Honors their Instructions to him & begs you'll be pleased to take the same into your wise Consideration and grant them such relief as your Honors may think fit, and your Petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever pray ¶

Jas Avery

Boston Sepr 12th 1781

Complaint of Juniper Berthiaume.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The information and Complaint of Juniper Berthiaume Recolect Instructor of the Tribe of Penobscut Indians ¶ Humbly Sheweth That about twelve months ago I had the care of the Penobscot Tribe of Indians by a resolve of the

General Court put into my hands, from which time I looked upon it as part of Duty that Justice Should be done to said Indians by the Truck master at Fort Hallifax. By the Complaints of almost all the Indians to me, and what observation I could make myself it plainly appeared to me that the Truck master at fort Hallifax did and persists in doing unjustly by the Indians I shall instance in Several things that are wrong Viz^{t} He kept back one half of the hatchets sent by the Governm^{t} as a present to s^{d} Indians, and made them pay at the rate of a silver dollar a piece for fifty kept back. He chainged their Knives sent as before to one half wooden handled ones, and sold the Jack knives the Indians should have had for a silver dollar or its value a piece for them He took a moose skin for two quarts of rum most part of last winter He took six moose skins for each blanket altho' very ordinary He took twelve moose skins for each rugg from the Indians, & two Guineas a piece from the English for it makes no odds with him who he trades with altho the Indians are much offended thinking the truck is kept for them, all other things he has to sell is equally extravagant to the above specimen — He does not give the Indians weight and measure as an honest man should do Besides I am fully of opinion he is not friendly to the american cause, I am informed by good authority that said truckmaster about six weeks ago purchased a yoak of fat oxen at Sibesticook and that one Capt Gin carried said oxen to penobscot along with a number of other cattle The Indians complain sorely of the evil treatment they have received from said Truckmaster and say they cannot come to fort Hallifax to trade till their trade]
At present some Indians are gone to Canada others to Majabiguaduce and trades with the Brittains These disorders respecting the Indians it is not in my power to prevent as things are now Circumstanced Therefore prays your Ex-

cellency & Honours would enquire into matters of the Facts respecting the truck at Fort Hallifax and evel tratement the Indians have received there and your Complanant as in Duty bound Shall ever pray

S. Juniper Berthiaume
Recollet

Winslow Nov 20th 1781

Petition of Inhabitants of Georgetown.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

To the Honble the Senate & house of Representatives of in General Court to be assembled,

The Petition of the Inhabitants of Georgetown on Kennebec River, humbly Sheweth,

That the said Inhabitants have ever understood that their raising a proportion of Men for the defence of the Eastern Country the last Campaign, was intended by the General Court, as a temporary excuse for not raising their quota of Men for the continental Army, untill the further Orders of Court for that purpose: they cannot therefore help expressing their surprize & concern! on finding themselves called upon, by a Resolve of the General Court of the 20th of October last, for the average price of the Men assessed on this Town for the Army, with an additional sum of fifty p Cent, as a fine, for not having procured them before; nor can they for the reason abovementioned think themselves subject to the said fine of fifty p Cent, upon the principles of propriety or justice — But as the said Inhabitants are sanguine in the opinion, that, on an adequate view of their situation & circumstances, your Honours will see & readily acknowledge, the impropriety of the said Inhabitants being compell^d to furnish the whole

Number of Men for the Continental Army originally assessed on said Town, they therefore humbly pray your Honours paternal regards for a moment to the following simple State of Facts.

This Town which forms the entrance of the River Kennebec, is situated on the Sea Coast, & is surrounded & intersected, by numerous Rivers, Bays & Creeks; a circumstance that renders it extremely accessible to the enemy's Cruizers & hostile Whale-boats, a circumstance too, of which, they have frequently availed themselves since the commencement of the War, to distress & plunder the Inhabitants, to which acts of hostility, they are also strongly invited, by the said River's being the principle resort of Coasting Vessels from the Westward, which must pass through said Town on their way up the River in search of Lumber — most of the said Inhabitants have borne arms against the King of Great Britain, either here or in the Continental Army, & many individuals are from that circumstance, together with a spirited opposition to the various arts of the british Commanders, to detach this Country from its alliegance to the United States become peculiarly Obnoxious; & in the present defenceless State of said Town are subject to be taken off by the Enemy, whenever they see fit—The s^d^ Inhabitants are deprived of the essential advantages which they formerly derived from their Lumber & Fishery by the intire Capture of their Coasting & other Vessels—their Crops the last season have everywhere fallen greatly Short, & in many places are totally destroyed by the Worms & the most severe drought that has been known for many Years, so that the greatest part of the Money which they can by any means collect, must be applied to the purchasing Corn at the Westward, for the Support of their families—nor have such of the said Inhabitants, as have served for three Years past in defence of this part of the Country, as yet, received any

part of their Wages which might in some Measure enable them to comply with the various Requisitions of Government —

Thus circumstanced, the said Inhabitants beg leave to approach the Legislative Body of the Commonwealth! & humbly to request, that they may be absolutely exempted from the s^d^ fine of fifty P Cent, & that such an abatement may be made in the Number of Men demanded of them, & such time allowed to obtain them in as your Honours in your great Wisdom may think proper & Your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray

Alexander Drumond } Select Men
David Oliver } of Georgetown

Georgetown Decr 13th 1781

Account of Massachusetts Against the United States.

Dr The United States to the Commonw^th^ of Massachusetts for sundrys supply'd for the defence of ye Post at Machias

Itemized account, supplys etc	£7897. 8 :0
To paid Col° Allens Officers & Soldiers for their Wages as p^r^ Acco^t^ p^r^ the Committee for Settling with the Army	2401. 3.8
Specie	£10298.11.8

Affidavit of Jeremiah Tolman.

Jeremiah Tolman of Lawful Age Testifieth & saith that sometime in the beginning of June last after an alarm had been given that the Enemy had arrived at Camden taken several Persons Prisoners and carried away a Number of Guns & other Articles, & destroyed some Cannon &c This

Deponent a Selectman of the Town of Thomaston was Desired By Major Wheaton Esq, to go to Colonel McCobb, and desire him to come, or send some Men to protect & Guard these part, accordingly I went and the Colonel, told me that he was waiting for Boats from the Governor and hoped to be here soon himself, and further saith not

Jeremiah Tolman

Petition of Barbara Douglass.

To His Excellency the Governor in Council

The Petition of Barbara Douglass humbly sheweth, that at the last supreme Judicial Court at Falmouth her husband, Robert Douglass, was indited, and tried, and condemned for theft; that among other punishment he was adjudged to be whipped at the publick whiping Post: This must involve a family intirely dependent on their Industry and Reputation for their necessary support, in extreme misery: It would be improper for your Petitioner to assert the Character she and her unhappy family have hitherto endeavoured to sustain, and have been happy in the enjoyment of: She hopes the Names of the Gentlemen who are kind enough to give her their assistance will sufficiently evince it to Your Excellency. Her family consists of seven young Children. The three eldest are Daughters from 14 to 19 years old; the four younger are Sons from 1½ to 10 years old — For the sake of these Your Petitioner humbly prays for the interposition of Your Excellency's Clemency, and that in goodness the Corporal punishment adjudged to her Husband may be remitted.

Barbara Douglass

We the Subscribers most heartily join the above signed Barbara Douglass in the prayer of her Petition — Thos. Willson Elecksander Porter Rich[d] Temple, Jon[n] Thompson,

John Winchell, Stuart Hunt, James Elbet Treat, Nath Hinkley, Samuel Gatchell, Nath[l] Larrabee, Thom[s] Simons, James Curtis, Sam[l] Stanwood, Benj[a] Thompson, Theopl[s] Hinkley, George Heddean Thomas Berry, Sam[l] Dunkan, H[m] Tobey, James Willson, John Potter, Joseph Potter, henry Pater, John Mallet, Moses Hodgkins, Charles Cousins, Ezra Randal, —— Eaton, William Willson, John Allan, Jabe Jeleson, John Merrill, Stephen Roach, William Mallet, Elijah Tilden, Robert Cleaves, James Paters, John Dunlap, John Cone, Robert Alexander, John Alexander, Tho[s] Thompson, John Alexander, W[m] Alexander, Stephen Linnell, Alexander Potter, Ezek[l] Thompson, Jedidiah Adams, Zebulon Preble, James Landers, Andrew Duglas, frank Duglas, John Teyly, Wilam Dugles, Abiel Richeson, henry Richeson, Prine Roes

Petition of Officers et als in County of Lincoln.

To the Hon[ble] Senate and House of Representatives for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

¶ The Petition of the Field officers and of the Selectmen & other Inhabitants of the fourth Regiment in the County of Lincoln in behalf of the poor Distressed inhabitants Situated as it were under the Cannon of the Enemy humbly Sheweth ¶ That the Said inhabitants are in a peculiar Manner Exposed to the Raveges of the Enemy and the insults of the disaffected who Still reside amongst us, & although the Government have Voted & been at the Expence of Raising & Supporting a Considerable Number of men for the Defence of the eastern Country, yet Such has been the disposition of that Force not being Stationed in the Front Gave the Enemy Great advantage to Carry on their Plans through the Said County, and it is Commonly Reported that Proclamations are Sent through the Said County in a Private manner by

the Enemy for all to Come in and take the oath of illegiance to them and it appears plain that Numbers have Gone there, and we are insultingly told that we will be all under British Government in the Spring as far as Kenebeck River, and our Melitia tho once Good is got Cold and disheartened as we have no Protection and left to Ravages of the enemy for to Kill burn and distroy as thay have done and Still threaten to Burn and distroy if they are found acting in the Cause of our Country, thus left to an exasperated enemy Seems Cruel ¶ Thus Circumstanced, Your Petitioners begs your Hon^rs to take their Deplorable Case into your Wise Consideration & Grant Such a relief of Continental troops as the Good of the Comonwealth and our Circumstances Requires and Your Petitioners as in duty Bound Shall ever Pray

¶ Thomas Starret, Hatevil Libbey } Field officers

¶ Patrick Pepbles, William Bogs } Select Men

¶ Mason Wheaton, John McIntyer, Alex^r Lermond, John Wyllie, Saml Brown, James Brown William Lermond, Atwood Fales, Philip Robbins, Paul Jameson, John Sper, William Robinson

Petition of Stephen Barton et als.

To the Hono^ble the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled — Gentlemen

¶ The Petition of us the Subscribers Humbly Sheweth That whereas the General Court by their Resolves have Required of the Town of Vasselboro Six Continental men for three years or During the war — as also a Large Quantity of Beef the Town Being Sensable that it is not in their Power to Comply with your Honour Requisitions having Chosen us the Subscribers to Petition your Hon^rs and Pray for Relief

for Reason Hereafter mentioned as your Petitioners are fully Certain there is not money Enough in s^d^ Town to Hire two Continental men at the Price they would Engage for Neither do your Petitioners Suppose there is Provision in said Town were it Equally Divided any way to supply the Inhabitants till May next Occasioned By Repeated Droughts and unfavourable seasons & your Petitioners are so Situate in the mouths of the Enemy By Sea that it very Difficult Obtaining the Necessarys of Life which they must Have or Even Perish No one article that your Petitioners have any way to Despose of will Command money as their is no one article in the County of Lincoln Can be disposed of unless it is Lumber and unless our Sea Coasts and Trade Can be Protected your Petitioners Greatly fear that many People must Greatly suffer your Petitioners Trusting in your Honors Clemency and Goodness Hope your Hon^rs^ will Take their Destressed Circumstances into your wise Consideration and as in Duty Bound your Petitioners Shall Ever Pray

Step: Barton
Samuel Grant } Committee
Jedediah Barton

Vasselboro Jan^r^ 15, 1782

Petition of John Lewis.

To the Honourable Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in General Court Assembled Jany 16, 1782

¶ The Petition of John Lewis, of North Yarmouth in the County of Cumberland, on behalf of the Town of Cape Elizabeth in said County Humbly Sheweth That from your Petitioner's being Appointed by the Honble General Court to Receive the Cloathing & Soldiers of the Several Towns in the

County, & his living in the vicinity which may suppose some degree of knowledge of the present Circumstances of the Towns in the County together with a desire that Justice may be equally distributed, he hopes will Apologize for his prefering this petition, presuming upon which would beg leave, in mentioning something of the poor, decayed, & unfortunate circumstances of the said Town of Cape Elizabeth, to say,— That upon their return in observance of the Resolve of December 9, 1776, their N° was 350, which return was found to be correct by Col° Illsley's & Capt Morton's report Feb. 3, 1778. this N° as in all the other Towns was made the Basis As to N^os for Raising the Continental Army in 1777, their proportion was fifty men.— Seasonably in that year there was inlisted Seventy Six men in that Town, & went into the Army some for three years and Some during the war, which may be seen in the Secretary's office by the report of the Committee for settling disputes between the Towns in this County, relative to the soldiers, yet soon after drawing out so large a number from them, They through some unaccountable mistake gave in a list of 402 Polls for a new valuation, but mistakes is but a part of their misfortunes for early in the Controversy with Great Britain loosing their Trade & their Fishery being chiefly broken up, and much of their land being but indifferent for farming, some of their inhabitants were necessarily led to go into Seafaring business from other Sea Ports in which they have had something of uncommon losses of men, which loss of help to assist in bearing the burden has been attended with the evident & natural increase of burden by the multiplying of Widows & fatherless children Among them some of their Inhabitants have removed from them & I believe chiefly into the unincorporated parts of the Country or Government, from these Circumstances, & others that commonly attend Such great decays I am led to think that it is beyond their power & ability to procure such

a number of men for the Continental Army as it is set upon them by the Resolve of December 2-1780 & more so to pay the fine set by the Resolve of the 24 of October last. ¶ And Therefore pray (if their case is not taken into consideration, by application from themselves or otherways) that there may be a Committee appointed to take into Consideration the present circumstances of the Said Town of Cape Elizabeth & how far their ability extends towards complying with the aforesaid Resolve of December 2d & report a state of facts, as truth generally brightens by examination, or otherways relieve the said Town as in Your Wisdom you shall think fit, & as in duty bound shall ever pray

John Lewis

In Senate February 1st 1782

Read & thereupon ordered, that Jedidiah Preble & Israel Nichols Esqrs with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition together with the Petition of David Strout & others, Selectmen of Cape Elizabeth, into consideration & report what is proper to be done on the same.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presidt

In the House of Representatives Feby 5 1782

Read & concurred & Col White Capt Ward & Mr Holden are joined Nath Gorham Speaker

Petition of Vicente Doo.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the honorable the Senate, & the honorable the House of Representatives of said Commonwealth in General Court assembled at Boston Jany 1782.

Vicente Doo, a Subject of his most faithful Majesty the King of Portugal in Amity with the United States of America most respectfully sheweth ¶ That he was the late Master

of the Portuguese Schooner Nossa Senhora de Seledade St Miguel e Almas, which on the high Seas, in the month of November last was taken by the private armed Schooner Sally owned by Subjects of this Commonwealth & commanded by George Randall that his said captured Schooner was afterwards carried into the Port of old York in this State since which a Libel has been filed by the Captors against said portuguese Schooner before the hon^{ble} Timothy Langdon Esqr Judge of the Maritime Court for the Eastern District of this Commonwealth, who hath appointed a Court for the determining the Justice of said Capture to be held at Falmouth on the 14th Day of Feby next: But as the Trial if held at such a distant Part of the Commonwealth must operate greatly to the Injury of the Owners who are portuguese merchants, as well as to the Loss of your Petitioner, he begs leave to submit the following Reasons for the Removal of said Cause from the Court in the Eastern District to that of the middle, to your Honors Consideration. ¶ 1. That the principal Owners & most of the Crew of said privateer Sally live at Newbury Port, & yet said captured Schooner was carried into a port within the Eastern District in order that the Libel against her & her Cargo might be tried in said District & this for purposes best known to the Captors & others concerned in her Condemnation. ¶ 2. That the Council engaged by your Petitioner to support the Claim which he has filed to obtain Restoration of said Portuguese Schooner & her Cargo find it utterly impracticable to go to Falmouth to attend said Trial, as the supreme judicial Court is to set at Boston within four Days of the Time appointed for the Trial at Falmouth & it being impossible for them to return early enough, at this inclement Season to fulfill their Engagements at that Court. ¶ 3. That the most material Witness on the part of your Petitioner speaks in the Portuguese Language, & the only Interpreter that can

be found, utterly refuses to go such a Distance at this Season of the year. ¶ 4. That the Trial of said Capture in the Middle District must expedite Justice, as an Appeal may be there heard the beginning of March: Whereas an Appeal cannot be had in the Eastern District untill the month of June: Not to mention the Improbability of the Judge in the last mentioned District being able to travel from Pownalborough to Falmouth at this season: Or that the Libellants & Witnesses are much nearer to Boston than they are to Falmouth & can therefore with greater Ease & much less Expence attend the Trial at the last mentioned Place.— ¶ Your petitioner therefore prays that the Cause aforesaid may be removed from the maritime Court in the Eastern District to be held as aforesaid, & that the Judge of the maritime Court for the middle District may be authorized & impowered to hear & determine the Justice of the Capture aforesaid at his next Maritime Court, & that the Libellants of said Schooner be directed to bring & file before the s^d^ Judge of the middle District, his said Libel & all the papers by them filed in s^d^ Cause before the s^d^ Judge of the s^d^ Eastern District, on or before the first Day of the sitting of the next maritime Court for the middle District.

Jany 16th 1782 Vicente Doo

Petition of Selectmen of Cape Elizabeth.

To the Honourable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

The Petition of Cape Elizabeth in the County of Cumberland Humbly Sheweth that from a series of misfortunes since the beginning of the present War this Town is Rendred uncapeable of complying with the Requisitions Made on us by the Legislators of this State Espesialy in men to Furnish

our Quota for the Continental Army the misfortunes we have had in Loss of Men more Sencibly affects us our lands Now for want of labourers lays common Fences Rotten down and a very considerable part of what was once the most valuable lands is intirely dormant for the verefying of which we beg leave to Refer Your Honours to the Schedule herewith armest & prefer[d] which contains an Exact list of the Extraordinary numbers of men we furnished more than our Quota for the War and the few Returned as allso our Extraordinary losses of Men by Sea which has served to multiply widows & orpheans to which is added the total loss of our Small Navegation and allmost total loss of our fishery and the very considerable Removeals out of Town since all which Renders us uncapable of Raising the full Quota of men laid on us within our own town or of means or money to hire them from others and much less to pay the fine on failuer. All which we Humbly beg your Honours to take into consideration and Grant us such Redress with Regard to our Quota of men as in Your Great Wisdome shall think just and Your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray —

by order of Said Town

David Strout
Stephen Randall
Nath[l] Staple
} Selectmen of Cape Elizabeth

List of Men Lost Belonging to Cape Elizabeth.

A List of the men Formerly Belonging to the Town of Cape Elizabeth which went out in armed Vessels &c since y[e] year 1776 Viz[t] —

Lost in y[e] Ship Cumberland Cap[t] Collins Commander — Joseph Parker, Rich[d] Langley, Robert Stanford J[r], Tho[s] Stanford, James Dyer, Sam[l] Jordan, John Curate, David Strout J[r], Tho[s] Cushing, Sam[l] Small, Isaac Jordan Tho[s]

Webster, Thos Jordan, Hattie Wheeler. Lost with Capt Dillworth — John Alex^{r} Pollock Tim^{o} Eldreg — Stephen Atwood lately lost at sea. Lost in the Ship Miflen Capt Day Commander Viz^{t} Reuben Dyer Lost in a ship from Newbury of 18 guns Viz^{t} Simon Jordan Lost in ye Privateer Gen Wadsworth Viz^{t} Andrew Jordan Lost on Board the Guard Ship at New York Viz^{t} Josiah Wallis, Benj^{a} Dyer, Christopher Strout Lost in the Civil Usage Viz^{t} Peter Dyer Barney Sawyer, Thos York, John Gammon Lost with Capt George Maxwell Viz^{t} William Jones, Stephen Cash, James Webber, Saml Robinson Saml Gammon Lost with Capt Stone Viz^{t} Joseph Maxwell Thos Maxwell Francis Cash Lost with Capt Hinkley Viz^{t} Joseph Stanford, Jeremiah Jordan, Ebenezer Jordan, Israel Jordan. Lost with Capt Arthur McLallen Viz^{t} William McLallen, Mathew Simonton Lost in a Prize Brigt^{r} at Piscatigue Harbour Viz^{t} Ebenezer Robinson, Walter Simonton, Ebenezer Sawyer, Wm Jordan. Lost in ye Ship Rover of 20 Guns Viz^{t} Nathl Randall, Daniel Strout, Benja Sawyer, Ephraim Sawyer, Richard Stanford A list of ye men Mov^{d} from the Town of Cape Elizabeth since ye year 1776 Viz^{t} James Small, John Veeman, Tim^{o} Small, Daniel Small, Jacob Small, Ithiel Smith, Hump^{h} McKenney, Benj^{a} Jordan, Clem^{t} Jordan J^{r}, Archalus Stone, Jon^{a} Stone, David Vickery, Joseph Roberts, John Ficket, John Cash, Benj^{a} Smith, Danl Dyer, Peter Bitter, George Boa, Isaac Strout, Richd Strout, James Stinson, Vincent Ficket, Abner Ficket, Henry Jackson, Peter Staple, Saml Tenney, John Guld, Saml Pennel, Joshua Westcoat, Josh^{a} Strout J^{r}, Benj^{a} Sawyer, Wm Roberts, James Wagg Jr., Ezra Jordan, John Fowler, Jedidiah Cobb, John Simonton, Thos McLallan, Stilsman Jordan [ ], Robert Jackson, Ebenezer Newell, Joseph Wiseman, George Robinson, Jacob Webb Refugee Edmund Weston. A List of the men who Died in the Continental Army who Enlisted for three Years in the Year 1777

Viz[t] Robert Herrington, James Noble Cobb, John Jordan, Robert Jordan, Edmund Jordan, Solomon Jackson J[r], Edward Avery Ju[r], John Bryant, Abraham Bryant Jr. Loring Cushing, Robert Stanford, John Strout, Lemuel Sawyer, Wm Sawyer, Nath[l] Sawyer, Jon[a] Strout, Reuben Skilling, Josiah Stanford, Tho[s] Jones

* Eleazer Strout Jr. Ephraim Crocket, Sam[l] Dyer, Tho[s] Gent, W[m] Maxwell, Joseph Cobb J[r] * Not knowing whether Dead or living.

Cape Elizabeth Jan[y] 17, 1782

Nath[l] Staple
Stephen Randal
David Strout
} Selectmen of said Town

John Lewis to Speaker of the House.

Falmouth Jan[r] 17, 1782

Sir

the Remoteness of this County from the Seat of Government naturally brings us to be later in our Complyance with the orders of the General Court than the nearer Counties, with respect to the Resolve of the 24 of Oct[r] last relative to making up the deficiencies for the Continental Army, Upon the Receipt of the Resolves I applied to the business according to order, but the time was so far elapsed, & the great scarcity of money in this part of the Country that it was out of the power of most or all the different Towns to procure the men by the 20 of Dec[r] I have however Received all whether inlisted before or after & shall send most of them forward the beginning of next week, Some I shall not be able to collect in the back Towns to go forward at that time as the snow is very deep & must send them as soon as I can collect them & must Ask about ten days longer to make out a list of

the deficient Towns, which I expect will be but few, if I have or am about to Act any thing in this affair, as above mentioned, that is Contrary to the design of the Honble Court, Should be glad to know it as early as possible. ¶ from your very Humble Servant

John Lewis

The Honble Nathaniel Gorham Esqr Speaker of the House of Representatives, to be Communicated if thought proper.

Petition of James Avery.

To the Honble Senate & House of Repres^{ts} of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of James Avery ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That during the last Sessions your Honors were pleased to direct the Treasurer to Discharge the Warrents Drawn in my favour for Colo Allans acc^{t} in Novr 1780 in hard money, there being no money in the Treasury he cou'd not comply with your Honors Directions — at the Time the Warrent was drawn the Public Service made it Necessary to borrow Money to the Am^{t} for which your Petitioner gave his Private obligations. the persons who lent the Money are daily pressing your Petitioner to Settle & are determind to wait no longer — and as there is no probibility of their being Money in the Treasury soon to Discharge them —your Petitioner Humbly prays your Honors would be pleased to Direct the Treasurer to Issue Certificates to Discharge said Warrents as allso to allow Interest which your petitioner stands obligated for to the persons who lent the Money — and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

Jas Avery

Boston Jany 18, 1782

Theophilus Bradbury Esq. vs Petition Vicente Doo.

To the hon Senate and house of Representatives of the Common Wealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled.

¶ The Libellants of the vessel and cargo mentioned in the petition of Vicente Doo, (without staying to observe the unreasonableness of his request to have the papers removed by them and at their Expence when the removal is solely for his benefit and convenience,) beg leave directly to answer ¶ That the petitioner has been misinformed & is mistaken in asserting that the major part of the interested in said Vessel & cargo live in the middle district, On the contrary five eighths in interest & all except three in number & they are pretty numerous, live in the eastern district from whence the privateer was fitted out, & whether this & the only other prize she ever took were originally intended to be, and were in fact sent. ¶ If the reasons therefore are best known as is suggested to the Libellants, yet they are plain & obvious, & were never wish'd to be concealed, They are the same that induce adventures from Boston, Salem & other ports in the middle district to bring their prizes into those parts; Viz because It was most convenient & least expensive to the major part concerned to receive & divide their prizes there, and because they wished, especially in case of dispute to have their cause tried as near their own homes as might be, where they would conveniently attend in person and have the satisfaction of seeing for themselves that, the trial was fair and impartial; & living as they do at so great a distance from the Metropolis, & separated as they are therefore by an intervening State, they esteem a trial of this and all their other causes (where by law it may be) in their own neighbourhood and vicinity one of their most important & valuable as well as constitutional privileges, of which they ought not to be

deprived by being drawn to answer to a foreign Jurisdiction — They further say that it cannot be done, and a speedier trial had, in the present case, in the middle than in the eastern district, without a much great inconvenience & injury to them, than the petitioner complains of; for if a maritime Court is held in the former, previous to next Session of the Supreme Judicial Court in Boston on ye 3^{d} Tuesday of next month, it cannot legally be notified in the usual news paper, sooner than for the first or Second week in that month, if for the first the Respondents council cannot attend being one or both of them engaged to attend a Court in New-hampshire where they usually waited at that time; if for the second, the Libellants themselves & one of their council cannot attend, being obliged to attend their other maritime Cause that week at Falmouth — If for these reasons the cause should, as it doubtless would, be continued, the appeal after the first trial would lie to the Supreme Court at Concord in April next, but this would draw the Libellants still farther from home, & is a session at which their council do not attend & practice, & at a time when one or both are engaged to attend a Court at York where one of them usually practices. for which reasons the cause would doubtless be continued to the next court on to Ipswich in June next but one week from that a trial might be had at the same Court at York without removing the cause.— The 14th of February next at Falmouth was pitched on because that is usually the pleasantest part of the winter & the best travelling — But if it is inconvenient to the petitioner, his council or interpreter to attend then which are the only reasons of any weight as your Respondents humbly conceive for removing the cause, they are ready to remove them all entirely, by agreeing that the cause shall be continued to any town in the eastern district, the Petitioner pleases, and to any time previous to the sessions of the supreme Courts there in June when they & the Respondents

Council can all conveniently attend, in May if agreeable; & they conceive they have already shewn that the final trial will not be thereby delayed longer than one week. ¶ The Respondents are fully sensible, that upon principly of policy as well as Justice, Foreigners ought to be enabled to obtain speedy as well as ample Justice in this Common Wealth, But they humbly conceive, that the most favourd & most friendly neutral powers (to say nothing of Portugal in particular) would not take umbrage, because a trial between one of their subjects and a subject of this common wealth, was not at his request removed from the Jurisdiction where such Causes were by the established laws, the immemorial usage & constitution itself of the Commonwealth, usually tried unless it was manifest that a fair & impartial tryal could not otherwise be had for which there is not in the present case the least pretence, nor is it even suggested by the Petitioner himself — Wherefore the Respondents humbly pray that the said petition may be dismist

Theop Bradbury their Att^{y}

Resolve in Case of Vicente Doo.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Jan^{ry} 21, 1782

On the petition of Vicente Doo a subject of his most faithful Majesty the King of Portugal in amity with the United States of America & claimant of the Schooner Nossa Senhora de Soledude St Miguel e Almas setting forth that said Schooner was captured by an American privateer, carried into the port of Old York & libelled before the hon. Timothy Langdon Esqr Judge of the Maritime Court for the Eastern District for the determining the Justice of which capture a

Court is by Law to be held at Falmouth on the fourteenth day of February next & praying that the trial of s^{d} Schooner may be removed from the s^{d} Eastern District to the middle District of this Commonwealth; for the expediting of Justice & other causes set forth in s^{d} petition —

Resolve that the Libel filed against the s^{d} Schooner before the Judge aforesaid, together with all the papers & other matters appertaining thereto which by Law are now to be brought before & tried at the said Court to be holden at Falmouth as aforesaid shall be brought before & tried at the Maritime Court next to be held in the s^{d} Middle District after the s^{d} fourteenth day of February & the same proceedings shall be had thereon & the same privileges reserved to either party at the last mentioned Court as though said Schooner had been brought into the middle District & s^{d} Libtl had been originally filed before the Judge of the Middle District afores^{d} the s^{d} Vicente Doo to be at the expence of removing all such of s^{d} papers as are now on the files of the s^{d} Court in the Eastern District afores^{d} & to give notice of this Resolve to some one of the adverse party at least seven days before the time appointed for the trial of s^{d} Cause in s^{d} Eastern District any Law usage or custom to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Jany 23^{d} 1782

Read & Nonconcurred

S. Adams Presid^{t}

Approv'd John Hancock

January 26th 1782,

Reconsidered & Concurred

S. Adams Presid^{t}

Petition of Col Edward Grow.

Petition of Col Edward Grow, that Sheriff Johnson Moulton, York Co, may delay return of "Executions."

To the Hon[ble] Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in general Court assembled the 22nd day of January 1782

The Memorial of Edward Grow in behalf of Johnson Moulton Esq[r] Sheriff of the County of York ¶ Humbly shews that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth having made out Executions against the several Constables in said County for the Ballances due from them Respectively of the hard Money Tax Assessed 1780 which Executions were committed to the said Sheriff who has visited the Several Constables aforesaid & demanded in the most pressing manner satisfaction of the said Executions that some of them have made satisfaction in part & some of them in the whole & that they universally appear disposed to do it if in their Power either by Collections from the People or by hireing the Money for that purpose that the said Constables have tryed the Experiment of raising the Money by Distress without Effect for Want of Money to purchase the Articles of Distress that the Inability of the People in the said County to pay said Tax principally arises from this Cause that Lumber of late will rarely Sell for Money upon which they chiefly depend for payment of Taxes that he is in Hopes some favourable Turn in Affairs will soon take place which may enable the People in that County to pay their Taxes as well as in other Counties that in his Opinion it is not within the Limits of Possibility to satisfy said Executions unless by Committing the several Constables to Goal which he conceives can answer no valuable purpose Wherefore your Memorialist prays in Behalf of the said Sheriff that the said Sheriff may not be held & obliged to Return said Executions till the further Orders of the Gen-

eral Court & that in the mean Time they may be in full force or that he may have such Directions from the Honble Court as they in their Wisdom may think best & your Mem^{o} as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Edwd Grow

Resolve on Foregoing.

The Committee on the Petition of Col^{o} Grow in behalf of the Sheriff of the County of York beg leave to report by way of Resolve —

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives Jany 24th 1782

on the petition of Edwd Grow in behalf of the Sheriff of the County of York — Resolved that the prayer of the petition be granted & that the s^{d} Sheriff shall not be held & obliged to return the executions committed to him against the delinquent Constables in s^{d} County untill the further orders of the Court & that the s^{d} executions shall in the meantime be in full force any law or Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Petition of Vicente Doo.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the honorable the senate of said Commonwealth.

Vicente Doo humbly sheweth ¶ That he has learnt that the Resolve passed upon his Petition (which he had the Honour of presenting to the General Assembly) by the House of Representatives, hath met the Nonconcurrence of your Honors, He begs leave to assure your Honors that should said Resolve not pass, it must inevitably prove the Loss of his Vessel & Cargo, Whereas no Disadvantage can arise to the

Libellants, from the Removal of the Cause into the Middle District: Many additional Reasons might be given to those mentioned in his former Petition, to inforce the prayer of it, & he earnestly sollicits your Honors to give him an Opportunity of being farther heard upon the Subject, when he doubts not he shall be able to satisfy your honourable House of the Reasonableness of his former Prayer. As an unfortunate Portugueze Subject, a Stranger to the Language & to the Laws of this Country, without Money & without Friends; Dispossessed of a very valuable Property, which was no sooner brought into a Port, than it was divided by the Captors he throws himself upon the Justice of your Honors, & humbly sollicits your Honors farther Consideration of his Distressed Circumstances.

Vicente Doo

Resolve in re Losses in Penobscot Expedition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Jany 28, 1782

Whereas the late Board of War of this Commonwealth is indebted for Vessels charter'd & lost at Penobscot & for Goods purchased and Services performed for this Commonwealth & whereas the present State of the Treasury will not admit of immediate payment in Money & it is but just & reasonable that All the Creditors of this Commonwealth be placed on the same equal footing — Therefore Resolved — that the Committee for liquidating & settling the Accounts of the late Board of War, be & they are hereby impowered & directed to liquidate & determine all Sums of Money which may be due for Vessels chartered & lost at Penobscot agreable to the Charterpartys & all other Debts w^{h} may still remain due from the said Board of War — & the said Com-

mittee are further directed & impowered to Consolidate the same agreable to Law, estimating the Depretiation on the Vessels lost at Penobscot according to the Date of the Charterparty & on all other Debts as they become due respectively — And the Sums so Consolidated & the Interest thereon the Committee aforesaid shall certify to his Excellency the Governor who with Advice of Council is requested to issue his Warrants on the Treasurer of this Commonwealth — who is hereby directed to receive the same on the Loan of Eight hundred thousand pounds & to give his notes accordingly — ¶ And Whereas Disputes may arise between the Committee aforesaid & some persons who may have Accounts open with the late Board of War, it is further Resolved that in such Case the Committee be & they hereby are authorized & impowered to submit any such matter to the Decission of Indifferent Men mutually Chosen by the said Committee & the Person or Persons with whom such Dispute May Subsist —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham, Speaker

In Senate Jany 28th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^{t}

Approv^{d} John Hancock

Resolve in Favor of John Lewis.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Jany 29, 1782

On the Representation of John Lewis Esqr Superintendant for the County of Cumberland in Relation to his Receiving Continental Soldiers after the 20th day of Decem^{r} last for reasons mentioned. Resolved that the General Court do approve of his Conduct in that Regard & that he be & hereby

is directed to send them forward as soon as may be & that the several Towns Plantations or Classes who procured such Soldiers be & hereby are exempted from all Penalties which they may have incurred for not procuring the same soldiers before the said 20th day of Decem^r last saving the Expence which may have arisen in Consequence of the Issuing Executions any Law or Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Feby 21st 1782

Read & Concurred

S. Adams Presid^t

Approv^d John Hancock

Resolve on Petition James Avery.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Jany 29, 1782

On the Petition of James Avery ¶ Resolved that the Treasurer be & he hereby is Directed to Issue Certificates on the Tax granted in October last, to Discharge Warrents heretofore Drawn in favour of James Avery for Colo John Allan's Acct A

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Feb 1 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

At A insert "the same to be charg'd to the United States"

In the House of Representatives Feby 1, 1782

Read & Concurred Nath Gorham Speaker

Report on Petition Inhabitants of Georgetown.

The Committee on the Petition of the Inhabitants of George town on Kennebec River having attended that business beg leave to Report by way of Resolve —

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives Feby 1, 1782

Whereas from the distressed circumstances of the Inhabitants of Georgetown & their having been called upon for a Number of Men for the defence of the Eastern Country the last Campaign — it appears to this Court that they are unable to comply with the requisition of Men for the Continental Army in it's fullest extent therefore

Resolved that the said Inhabitants be & they are hereby excused from the payment of any fine for not raising their quota of Men for the continental Army any former Resolve of the General Court to the Contrary notwithstanding. And it is farther Resolved that the said Inhabitants be & they are hereby abated Six Men of the Number assessed upon them by a Resolve of the 2^{d} of December 1780 provided nevertheless that if the said Inhabitants shall not procure & deliver in to the Superintendant appointed or that may hereafter be appointed to receive them the remainder of said Number of Men assessed upon them as aforesaid on or before the [A] 1st day of April next they shall be liable to the penalty provided in & by a Resolve of the 20th of October last against delinquent Towns which penalty shall be recovered in manner pointed out by said Resolve.

And it is further Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth stay execution against said Town for not procuring their quota of Men as aforesaid for the Continental Army untill the first [B] day of April next —

And it is further Resolved that the Resolve of the 24th of December 1780 authorizing the Several Towns within this

Commonwealth to Class their respective Inhabitants in order to procure their respective quotas of Men for the Continental Army be & is hereby revived with respect to said Town & shall continue in force until the first [C] day of April next

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Feb^{ry} 11th 1782

Read & oncurred with the amendments at A. B. & C.

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^{t}

viz. at A. B. & C. dele, "first," and insert "thirtieth;"

In the House of Representatives Feby 11 1782

read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Memorial Selectmen of Pownalboro.

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

Humbly Shew the Select Men of the Town of Pownalboro in behalf of said Town, that this Town have for many years past laboured under great Difficulties & Grievances which have now increased to such a Degree as to render them utterly incapable to Answer the present Demands of Government. ¶ Before & since the Commencement of the present War; our Chief Dependence was on our Lumber for our Support, which was usually sent to Boston & other westward Ports to procure the Necessaries of Life — ¶ By reason of our Coasts not being sufficiently guarded, our Vessels are taken, and our Trade

wholly destroyed by the Enemy, so that we have but one Coasting Vessel now belonging to this poor Town. That this Town in the most fruitful Seasons have not raised one half the Bread consumed therein, & by reason of the great Drought the last Season we are now reduced to the greatest Distress & Want; and what Provisions we can procure, to support our Lives, & Money to pay what Taxes we possible can, is at the Risque of at least, fifty p^{r} Cent, a grievance that our fellow subjects at the westward do not labour under ¶ That our foreign Trade is wholly destroyed by the Embargo on Masts & Sparrs the Exportation of which formerly enabled us to pay our Taxes, and a large Quantity of which has for four or five years past laid on hand & perishing.—¶ That the Demands of Government, and the Peoples inability to comply, has in this Town caused a great & alarming Emigration of its Inhabitants, so that we are now reduced greatly in our Numbers, and the Burthins on the remaining few are thereby increased and rendered insupportable. The late & very great Exactions of Government have created such murmurs & discontent that many of the Inhabitants of this Town are flying to the Wilderness for relief & support, and those that tarry at home are constantly oblidged to guard their Houses & Substance being in continual Danger from the Enemy—¶ We have thus as becomes dutiful & loyal Subjects made known our Grievances to the Honble Court which we hope will be sufficient to convince your Honors that we are unable to pay the present Demands of Government, We therefore pray your Honors in behalf of said Town, that they may be abated the cloathing & Provisions for the Army & Fine for not raising men for the Continental Army the last Spring and such other Taxes as your Honors in your goodness & wisdom shall think meet, and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Henry Hodge David Silvester

Resolve on Foregoing Memorial.

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 1 1782

The Committee appointed on the Petitions of Henry Hodge David Silvester Selectmen of the Town of Pownalborough Arthur Hunter Jonathan Penney Selectmen of the Town of Topsham and William Howard Daniel Savage & James Cooks Committee for the Town of Hallowell Likewise Stephen Barton Samuel Grant and Jedidiah Barton Committee for the Town of Vassalborough Seting forth their Destressed Circumstances by Reason of the Enemy being so near them with other Dificultis as Set forth in their Petitions Praying that the number of men Demanded from them by a Resolve of the General Court Past December Second 1780 to Supply the Deficiency of the Continental army and likewise the Clothing Required by a former Resolve ¶ Your Committee begs Leave to Report by way of Resolve be it therefore Resolved that the afores^{d} Towns of Pownalborough Topsham Hallowell and Vassalborough be and they are hereby Released from Procureing the number of men Required by the aforesaid Resolve be it further Resolved that the afores^{d} Towns be and they are hereby Released from Procureing any Clothing for the Continental Army agreable to a former Resolve, any Law or Resolve to the Conterey notwithstanding

Accounts Relating to the Penobscot Expedition.

Supplies and charges for the Penobscot Expedition from June 29, 1779 to Feb. 5, 1780 An itemized account showing the supplies furnished the different ships; as well as other military stores: the Whole totalling £17,261–8

A General Account of Supplies for the Expedition from June 29, 1779 to Oct. 1, 1779 An itemized account showing supplies and military stores, and to whom they were furnished The account is unfinished.

Accounts of the Board of War for the Expedition from June 30, 1779 to Jan. 1781 An itemized debit and credit account of the Board of War. The debit account totals £606,596:17:2; the credit, £26,255:19

Account of Stores delivered from the Laboratory for the Expedition from July 7, 1779, to Aug. 16, 1779. An itemized account totalling £100,603:15

Sundry Charges in the Accounts of the Board of War requiring explanation
Account of Jordan Parker, Purchasing & Issuing Commissary, paid
Account of John Tracy for amount of rations supplied the brigantine "Pallas" paid
Account of Edward Blanchard for truckage paid
" " Sam'l Brown for provisions paid
Waterman Thomas for sundries supplied the troops at Camden &c paid
John Tyler, Quarter Master General, charged
G. W. Speakman, Commissary of Ordnance, charged
John Lucas, Commissary of Provisions, charged
Eliphalet Downer, Surgeon, charged
Joshua Davis, Agent of Transports, charged
supplies for the ship "Gen Putnam" charged
Jon^a Parsons, paid
Joseph Noyes, paid
Beriah Norton, paid
Walter Spooner, for powder

Henry Herrick, for cannon paid
articles delivered Gen. Wadsworth
articles delivered Waterman Thomas
sundry advances in small stores to the Mass. line of the army
general charge of Supplies by the Board of War.

Articles delivered Col. Henry Jackson
Amount paid Commissary Devens for provisions
" " Edward Blanchard for trucking
" " Commissary Devens for Spy Vessels
" " Jon^a Glover for schooners "Orne" and "William"
" " for the passage of Jon^a Loring Austin, Jr. to France & other expenses

Account of articles delivered Col. Ephraim Brown
Account of articles delivered Huson an Indian

Sundry Accounts allowed mostly for meals for soldiers on retreat from Penobscot between September 21, 1779 and June 30, 1781

Account of what was allowed sundry persons at and after their retreat from Penobscot from Sept. 21, 1779, to June 27, 1781.

Petition of Addison Richardson.

To the Honble the Senate, and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,

May it please your Hon^r — ¶ Your Petitioner was one of those unfortunate Officers that was taken Prisoner at Fort Washington, upon the fated 16th of Nov. 1776; and through

the Inhumanity of the Enemy, and violation of all Justice, was stript, and plundered of all he had, except what he had upon his Back an Inventory of which your Petitioner, as soon as Circumstances would permit, made out, together with their Value which he herewith takes the Freedom to transmit to your Hon^{rs} and your Petitioner considering it highly reasonable that he should have his said Loss made up to him, by the Community in whose Cause he suffered, he rests satisfied in the Justice of the Hon^{le} Court, expecting that they will give him that Relief which the Justice of his Petition claims.— And as your Petitioner was detained eighteen months in Captivity, in which Time the paper medium greatly depreciated, he not receiving his Wages till sometime in Sepr 1778, he requests the Hon^{le} Court that they would make him that Compensation for the said Deficiency, as they, in their Wisdom shall see to be reasonable, and, as in Duty bound will ever pray.

Addison Richardson
Capt in the Reg^{t} comm^{d} by Qr Hutchinson Esq.

A Coppy of an inventory of things which the Subscriber Lost on the 16th of Novr 1776. When he was taken Prisoner at Fort Washington

One Bible 6/ one Silver hilted Sword £7:10	7:16
one gunn Bayonet Box and Belt	3:00
one Broad Cloth Coat £4:16	4:16
4 fine holand Shirts £4:16 — one Blankit 24/	6:00
Sheets Pillow and Bed Sack	3:00
3 Jackets 2 p^{r} Breeches	5: 8
2 handkerchiefs one P^{r} overalls	1: 0
1 pr Shooes 12/ 7 pr hose 42/	2:14
	33:14

Addison Richardson

Certificate in Favor of Josiah Waters Jr.

Commonwealth Mass.

Boston February 2d 1782

This Certifies, That the sum of Three Thousand & thirty nine pounds five shillings specie is due from the late Board of War to Mr Josih Waters Junr for Provisions Supplied ye sd Board for the use of the Penobscot Expedition July one thousand seven hundred seventy nine. with Four hundred & twenty one pounds two shillings for thirty one month Interest amo to Three thousand five hundred & ten pounds seven shillings which sum when paid will be in full of all demands for sd Provisions

Alex Hill } Comte for Auditing ye a/ct for ye Bd
Thomas Ivers } War

His Excellency The Governor & The Honle The Council of the Commonwealth Massachts —

In Council Feby 16th 1782

Rd & Advised That accts be drawn on the Treas. for £3510 .. 7 in favor of Col Josiah Waters jr in full of the within Certificate Jno Avery Secy —

Petition of Benjamin Jepson.

To the Honble the Senate and Honble House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled at Boston February 1782

The Petition of Benjamin Jepson — ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That your petitioner being part Owner of the Sloop called Pidgeon chartered her to the State for the Expedition against Penobscot where she was lost for which your petr has never received any compensation. your petitioner has been informed that the Executors of Capt Samuel Doggett the other

Owner of the said Sloop has Obtained a Grant from this Honble Court for the Ballance due to them. And as the greatest part of your petitioners Interest is in the hands of Government he is very much Straitened for money ¶ He humbly prays this Honble Court would be pleased to take his case into consideration, and be pleased to Grant him the Sum due to him for the Loss and hire of said Sloop

And as in duty bound shall pray &c

Benj^{a} Jepson

Boston Feby 8: 1782

In Senate Feby 8th 1782

Read & thereupon Ordered, that Aaron Wood Esqr with such as the Honble House shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration & report what may be proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presi^{dt}

Memorial of Edward Grow.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honble the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled Feb 8th 1782

¶ The memorial of Edwd Grow in Behalf of the Selectmen of York Seting forth that he has an ordor on the Treasurer from Capt Thomas Bragdon in favour of the said Select-men for the Day of his Rool for himself and the men that Belonged to York in the service of this Commonwealth in the Eastern Department in 1780 — and the treasurer thinks himself orthirized to pay the said order without the Direction of this Court your memorialist therefore prays that the treasurer may be directed to pay said ordor and your memorialist as in Duty Bound Shall Every Pray

Edwd Grow

Resolve on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^{r} 11, 1782

on the memorial of Edward Grow In behalf of the Selectmen of York Seting forth that he has an order on the Treasurer from Capt Thomas Bragdon in favour of said Selectmen for the pay of his Roll for himself and the men that belonged to York who Served in the Eastern Department in the year 1780 as set forth in Said Memorial

Resolved that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be and hereby is Directed to pay Said Edward Grow what their is due to the said Thomas Bragdon and those men made up on said Roll belonging to the town of York he giving his Rects' for the same, any Law or Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for Concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Febr^{y} 14th 1782

Read & Concurred with amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^{t}

viz at A insert "to be paid in Receipts on the Constables in the Town of York, out of the last State Tax."

In the House of Representatives Feb. 14, 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve on Petition Stephen Hardison.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives February the 9th 1782

¶ Upon the Petition of Stephen Hardison and others of a place in the County of Lincoln at the head of the Township

of New Bristol ¶ Resolved that the said Stephen Hardison and the other Petitioners with him be allowed to lay out upon the Governments Land there a Township by a surveyor & Chairmen under Oath of Miles Square adjoining to said New Bristol in the County of Lincoln and to return a Plan thereof to the general Court as soon as may be that the same may be taken under Consideration and a grant thereof made to them & others with such Reservations for the use of Government upon such Conditions and for such Consideration as the Court Shall Order.

Stephen Hardison
& ors Report ¶ to lie

Report in re Boothbay Accounts.

To the Honble The Senate, & Honble House of Representatives for the Common Wealth of Massachusetts, in General Court Assembled —

¶ May it Please your Honors — We the Subscribers being appointed a Committee by Resolves of this Honble Court of the first of March 1781 and 19th of Septem^r^ following, to enquire into the Representation made by the Selectmen of Boothbay in the County of Lincoln respecting the Treasurers Acco^ts^ of said Town, &c Beg leave to Report, That we repaird to the Town of Boothbay, and have made due enquiry into the matter, & the Treasurers Book being laid upon us, we found the Acco^ts^ to have been kept in a very irregular manner, owing to the mode of Settlement from time to time Whereupon we proceeded to Examine the Acco^ts^ from the begining to the end of the Book & have properly Stated & Adjusted the same, & instead of a large ball^ce^ being due to the Town as was alledg'd, we find a small ballance of Five pounds, sixteen shillings & five pence in bills of the old

Emission in fav^{r} of William McCobb Esqr the former Treasu^{r} We have also directed the Militia Officer to pay into the Treasury of said Town what fines he may have in his hands that he has received & has not accounted for, as he was not at Boothbay when we were there — ¶ We are with due Respect your Honors most Obed^{t} Serv^{ts}

Nathl Thwing Dum^{r} Sewall John Langdon } Committee

Boothbay Feby 9th 1782

Petition Town of Sanford.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Jany 1782

To the Honble the Senate & Honble house of Representatives in General Court assembled

The Petition of the subscribers inhabitants of the Town of Sanford in the County of York ¶ Humbly sheweth: that a number of years ago we settled on lands lying on the East part of the Town of Sanford then a wilderness upon encouragement of some Gentleman that We should have an opportunity of purchasing of it as soon as it could be divided & each Proprietor to have his share located which took place as to some but your Petitioners fall within the location of about three thousand acres on We are informed belonging to the late Governor Hutchinson which We then had a prospect of purchasing but found the part He took in Government. We Suppose his Estate is confiscated & is become the property of this Commonwealth — And as your Petitioner has spent many years hard labour and undergone every hardship in clearing these lands building houses to secure themselves & families from the inclemency of the weather and have during the present war paid their proportionable part of Taxes and Furnished their Quota of men for the War

Therefore, We pray that We may have ye liberty of purchasing the lands we have taken up at a moderate price or at the same price the other Proprietors sold their land of equal quality adjoyning & that a Committe may be appointed by Your Honors to view the lands & hear our proposals that We may have an opportunity of purchasing if our proposals should meet Your Honors approbation as We doubt not it will or any other method You may think proper so that We may have an exclusive right of purchasing — & as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

Jeremiah Eastman, Matthew Laisdel, John Stevens, Jeremiah Clements, Samuel Cluff, Humphery Whitten, Joseph Thompson, Levi Hutchings, Wm Parsons, Ebn^{r} Hall, John Knight, James M Daniel, Benj^{a} Tripe Thomas Kimball Paul Weston Wm Eastman, Gideon Stone, Joshua Goodridge, Benja Barnes, Nathl Conant, Morgan Lewis

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives Feby 9th 1782

Whereas it appears from the Representations of Ebenezer Hall and other Petitioners Inhabitants of the Town of Sanford in the County of York that some years ago they settled upon certain Lands in said Towns which belonged to the late Governor Hutchinson & have made considerable Improvements thereon in Expectation of obtaining a good Title to the same Whereas the said Lands are by Confiscation now become the property of this Commonwealth & the Committee for selling confiscated Estates in said County are Impowered to dispose of those Lands as well as other Lands confiscated to any person or persons indiscriminately And Whereas the Petitioners have applied to the General Court for an ex-

clusive Right of purchasing said Lands for a reasonable Consideration ¶ Therefore Resolved that John Hill Nath[l] Wells, & John Frosts Esq[rs] be and hereby are appointed a Committee to make full Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Settlement of said Lands, Who are hereby directed at the Request & Expence of the Petitioners to View & Estimate said Lands at such price as the same would have been worth in a State of Nature and take or Cause to be taken such Plan or Plans & prepare such Descriptions thereof as may be requisite as preparitories to a Grant of the same to the said Petitioners make Report of their Doings in Consequence of this Resolve to the General Court as soon as may be And the said Committee for selling confiscated Estates are hereby directed to suspend the sale of said Lands and Prosecutions against the present possessor thereof till the further Order of the general Court any Law or Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding —

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate March 8 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid[t]

Approv'd John Hancock

Nathaniel Shaw to Committee General Court.

Boston February 13, 1782

Gentlemen:

As you are Appointed by the General Court to take into consideration the Value of my Ship Putnam taken from me by this State for the Penobscot Expedition, I have now to inform you that I built the said Ship by Employing the workmen by the Day, and att a great expence procured the

whole of the Timber from Fishers Island, which is Preferable to any in this Country and as I intended her for a Privateer I spared no pains to procure workmen of the best kind paid them in Provisions at the old Price and upon Honour I declare to you that she cost very near Sixteen Thousand pounds and if I had taken Silver Money for the Provisions I could have got 33 1/3 p^{r} Cent more for them than I let the workmen have them at, which will make the Ship amount to Twenty odd Thousand pounds and am sure I could not at that time have possibly replaced such a ship for the sum; when you consider the great price of every kind of Stores necessary for to equip such a ship for Sea I cannot believe you will estimate her at less money. She was much the Largest Ship in the Fleet (except the Warren) and the best Sailor (att that time I fitted a Brig at Sixteen Six Pounders and she cost me ten Thousand Pounds) I am informed that this State determine to do justice to all their Conditions if you are of the same opinion I doubt not but I shall have justice done me — ¶ Col^{o} Waters will deliver you the Inventory of her Stores — I have not to add but am — Gentlemen your most Hble Servt

Nathl Shaw

¶ P. S. I expect you will enquire the Character &c of the ship from Col^{o} Waters & those persons who were acquainted with the Ship Mr Saml Broome Mr Jos. Russell &c

Petition of Samuel Leighton.

To the Honble the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

Humbly Shews ¶ Samuel Leighton of Kittery in the County of York Guardian to Samuel Shapleigh a Minor of the age of Sixteen or there abouts. That his said Ward is

interested in Six Several Lotts of unimproved Land in the Town of Berwick, each Lott containing one hundred Acres, & the share of the said Ward, is not more than one Tenth part of a Lot, That the Minors Interest is continually diminishing, by loss of the Timber and Wood thereon, and is a Continual Expence, by reason of Taxes — Your Petitioner therefore Prays that he may be enabled to make Sale of the said Minor Interest in the same Lands, and to Execute a Deed of Bargain & Sale thereof to the Purchaser — for the Benefit of the said Minor & as In Duty Bound shall Ever Pray &c Samuel Leighton Guardian

Kittery Jany 14th 1782

It is hereby Certified That at a Probate Court held at York in said County July 13th 1779 That Samuel Leighton of Kittery in said County Esqr was allowed to be Guardian to Samuel Shapleigh a Minor upward of Fourteen years of age according to said Minor Choice, & gave Bond with two Securities in £5000 for the faithfull discharge of the Trust.

David Sewall Reg^{r}

From the Information I had from the Guardian of Saml Shapleigh, in Whose Honesty & Integrity, I have great Confidence, I have the greatest Reason to believe the Facts set forth in his Memorial for the Sale of some small pieces of Land in Berwick are True, and that unless a speedy disposition is made of such Scraps The Ward will in a manner loose the Benefit of them. David Sewall

Feby 5th 1782

Action on Foregoing Petition.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feb^{r} 18, 1782

on the Petition of Saml Leighton Guardian to Samuel Shapleigh a minor Praying for liberty to sell s^{d} minors Share

in six Lots of Unimproved Lands Lying in the Town of Berwick for reasons set forth in his Petition,

Resolved that the said Samuel Leighton in his said capacity of Guardian, be and he is hereby Authorized and Impowered to sell the said Parsels of Lands for the most the same will fetch and to give and Execute good and sufficient Deed or Deeds to the Purchaser or Purchasers, he first giving Bonds to the Judge of Probate for the County of York that the moneys arizing from Said Sails shall be Apropriated for the benefit of said Minor, agreable to Law A

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham, Speaker

In Senate Febr^{y} 21st 1782

Read & Concurred wth amendment at A

Sent down for Concurrence

S. Adams Presid^{t}

At A insert, "the said Guardian observing the Rules & Directions of the Law respecting the Sale of real Estates by Executors and Administrators"

In the House of Representatives Feby 21, 1782

Read & concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve in Behalf Cape Elizabeth.

The Committee of Both houses on ye petition of ye Inhabitants of Cape Elizabeth having attended that business beg leave to report ye following Resolve—

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Senate Feby 19, 1782

Whereas it appears that in ye valuation, by which, ye assessment of 4000 Men for ye continental Army, for three years or during ye war, was appointed on ye several Towns

in this Commonwealth, according to a Resolve of ye General Court of ye 2^{d} of December 1780; the Select Men of ye Town of Cape Elizabeth by some mistake, made return of 100 rateable Polls more than in reality belonged to s^{d} Town by which means an undue proportion of said Men was appointed on s^{d} Town. And whereas, it appears that ye present circumstances of ye said Town are peculiarly distressing, occasioned by ye great diminuation of its Inhabitants by repeated losses at Sea, & ye peculiar severity of ye drought ye last Season — therefore ¶ Resolved, that ye Inhabitants of ye Town of Cape Elizabeth be, & they are hereby exempted from ye payment of ye average price of ye 18 Men assessed upon them as their quota of ye Army for three years or during ye War, & also from the payment of ye fine of fifty p^{r} Cent for not procuring said Men agreable to a Resolve of the General Court of the 20th of October last. ¶ And it is further Resolved, that Six of ye Eighteen Men assessed on said Town by ye s^{d} Resolve of ye 2^{d} of Dec. 1780 be & they are hereby abated ye s^{d} Inhabitants

And it is further Resolved, that ye said Inhabitants are permitted to Class themselves for the purpose of procuring the remaining 12 Men aforesaid on s^{d} Town as aforesaid, in order to which, ye Resolve of the 26 day of February 1781 for Classing, is hereby received, so far as it Respects ye s^{d} Town of Cape Elizabeth — ¶ And it is further Resolved that ye Treasurer of this Commonwealth is directed to pay Execution against the said Inhabitants for ye average price of ye said 18 men assessed on said Town, with the additional sum of fifty Pr Cent, they paying the Cost of any execution that may already have been issued against them for said purpose, anything in s^{d} Resolve of ye 20th of October last to ye contrary notwithstanding — provided however that if ye said Inhabitants shall not procure & deliver to ye Superintendent appointed to receive them, the remaining 12 Men afores^{d} on

or before ye A day of April next, the said Treasurer is directed to issue his Executions against them for ye average price of 12 Men for ye Continental Army, with an additional Sum of fifty p^r^ Cent in manner pointed out in ye said Resolve of the 20th of October last

In Senate Feb 19 1782

Read and accepted

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t^

In the House of Representatives Feby 25, 1782

Read & concurred with amendment at A viz at A insert, 'fifteenth'

Sent up for Concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate Feby 25th 1782

Read & Concurred

S Adams Presid^t^

Approv'd John Hancock.

Chas Cushing to Gov. Hancock.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To His Excellency John Hancock Esquire Governor and Commander in Chief &c in and over the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ May Please your Excellency ¶ Having just experienced a fresh instance of your Excellencys favor in my appointment to the office of Sheriff of the County of Lincoln — I take this opportunity to make my acknowledgments therefor — But am Sorry to Say that my circumstances will not admit of my executing said office at present as my personal attendance in the County would be necessary in the appointment of Deputies — And being so reduced by my late misfortunes

that I am rendered unable to be at so great an expence of time and Money as such a Journay would occasion; while my Services are needed here in the Support of my Family —

Wherefore I beg leave to resign said Sheriffs Office — hoping in your favor that it should hereafter be convenient for me to return to said County I may again be reappointed — I am with due respect Your Excellencys Most Obed^{t} Hum^{ble} Servt

Chas Cushing

Boston Feby 19th 1782

Petition of Lydia Twycross.

Edmund Bridge of Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln Esqr

Common Wealth of Massachusetts

To the Honourable the Senate and House of Representatives

The Petition of Lyddia Twycross humbly sheweth that the House that she and her Husband Lived in took fire in the Night of October the 23^{d} 1776 the Wind blowing hard; And Just as they had got in all their Corn and Stores for the Winter, the Fire was so rapid that they lost all their provisions, and allmost every thing they had and left allmost naked The times were so difficult that we could not Support our selves and could get no Relief to Cloth us &c My Husband Robard Twycross, on that account was obliged to make the Best of his way to England to his Honoured Father there Vis. The Reverand Robard Twycross where he now is: He has sent for your Petitioner and their Four Children Viz Roberd Hercet Twycross, Stephen Twycross, Joseph Lee Twycross, and Samuel Goodwin Twycross, To go to him my Husband Robt Twycross, in England: and hath ordered Money &c at New York for me and my Childrens Support,

and passage; And Money at Hallifax if I should arrive there in my Passage to New York Or obtain a passage from London; Therefore I most Humbly pray your Excellency, and Honours to grant me liberty to go to England to my Husband with our Four Children and Effects about the value of Sixty Pounds in all and that I may have the liberty of geting a Vessel and Flagg Navigated by Three or Four Men to carry me to New York by the way of Baguaduce and Hallifax if I could not get a passage from one of them places or to go by Land which I can obtain most Conveniently and that your Excellency and Honours would be pleased to grant that my Husband my Self and Children may Return to New England again in pase and safty: and I farther, most Humbly pray your Excellency, and Honours, to grant leave that my Honoured Father Samuel Goodwin Esqr may go with me and Children, to obtain a passage and see me and Children on Bord som good Ship bound to London: with Necessaries for the Voige, and that he may then return to his Family again in Pase and safety: and that I may carry a Woman for help. All which Requests your Most Humble petitionar Prays your Excellency and Honours to grant, and as in duty bound shall ever pray

Lydia O Twycross

Pownalborough February 21th 1782

Resolve on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives April 1782

On the Petition of Lydia Twycross praying that she may have liberty to go to England to her husband Robert Twycross &c ¶ Resolved that the prayer of s^{d} Petition be so far granted, that the said Lydia Twycross have liberty to go to Bagaduce in the first Flagg of Truce and take with her her

four Children mentioned in s^d^ Petition (viz) Robert Herect Twycross, Stephen Twycross, Joseph Lee Twycross & Samuel Goodwin Twycross & such Articles only as may be Judged by the Select Men of Pownalborough Necessary for their Passage, and that the said Lydia do not return again without the Liberty of the General Court of this Commonwealth.

Affidavit of Saml Goodwin Jr.

I Saml Goodwin Junr of Pownalborough in the County of Lincoln testify and say that some time last fall, a Hessian Deserter from Baggaduce came to my house, and afterwards went from my house to Mr Francis Rittals a Neighbour of mine and soon after s^d^ Mr Rittal being at my house We entered into some Conversation concerning the said Deserter — Mr Rittal told me that he advised him to return again to Baggaduce, and advised him to apply to one Doctor Shaeffer to write a Letter for him to his Major — The said Rittal further said that he told the said Deserter that if he Went among the Damn'd Rebels he would have nothing but Shad & Potatoes — He further told me that he told the said Deserter that one of his Country men lived with one Sewall a Tanner, and that Sewall kept him so poor that he got Lame in one of his hands, and then run away, & lived with Doctor Theobald — and from thence went to Baggaduce — I further say that I have often heard Mr Rittal express himself against the American Cause and those who supported it, with great bitterness

Saml Goodwin Junr

Lincoln Ss. Feby 21, 1782

Mr Samuel Goodwin Junr above-named personally appeared and made Oath to the Truth of the aforewritten Deposition by him subscribed ¶ before me

Jon. Bowman Just peace

Affidavit Joseph North.

I Joseph North of Lawful age Testify and say that a special Court was holden in the County of Lincoln before James Howard Esq[r] and your Deponant, one John Jones, was upon trial, as a person Enemical to the Libertys of America S[d] Jones Evidences was Entertained at one Frances Rittals (he being an inn holder) the Evidences for the State was Reffused Entertainment — the said Evidences made Complaint to the Court and Requested them to adjourn to another town. Said Rittals General Character is that of an Enemical Person. it is my opinion that General Wadsworths Exertions were vastly Beneficial to this Country, from the threats of our internal Enemies; and the Recapture of Brigadier Cushing, the Friends of America was Disheartened and Discouraged from Doing their Duty Least they should have their intrest Distroyed By Fire or their Persons Captivated after Rittal and others were secured the Face of things was Changed — Furthermore it is my opinion that said Rittal House is not Farther than ten miles from the Sea Coast, that is to say where the Land is open to the ocean.

Joseph North

¶ Lincoln Ss Feb. 20 A D 1783

Then the within Named Joseph North made Oath to the truth of the within Declarations by him subscribed Before me

Ezekiel Pattee Justice of Peace.

Affidavit of William Howard.

I william Howard of Lawfull age testify and say that the General Character of Frances Rittal of Pownalborough is that he is an Enemie to this Country and associates himself with Suspitious Persons att the time said Rittal was taken

up by Capt McLellan our internal Enemies Bore such sway that they threatened the Friends to this Commonwealth with Captivity — which intimidated the officers from Performing their Duty But after said Rittal and others was taken up our internal Enemies was Frustrated in their Plans and Government went on as usual and its my opinion By puting Martial Law in force the Greater Service has Been Done to this Country Especialy at that time —

William Howard.

Lincoln Ss Feb^{r} 20th A D 1783

Then the within Nam'd William Howard made oath to the Truth of the within Declaration by him Subscribed. Before me

Ezekiel Pattee Justice of Peace

Pownalboro 20th Feby 1782

Sir,

I have been to Mr Bowmans in order to give my Deposition in the affair between your Father & Mr Rittal, I dont Chuse to say any thing about it in that way, but will write to Some of the members of the Court which will be of Eaquel Service to the Cause — ¶ I am Sir your hum^{l} Servt

Sam Goodridge

Resolve in Favor Ezekiel Pattee.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In ye house of Representatives Feby 22, 1782 —

Whereas it appears that Ezekiel Pattee Esqr of Winslow in ye County of Lincoln in order to preserve ye peace of that & ye neighbouring settlements, did at ye united request of a Member of ye penobscut Indians & a french priest who re-

sides amongst them supply ye s^d Indians with a quantity of provisions the last Winter for which he has been able to obtain no satisfaction from ye s^d Indians therefore ¶ Resolved, that ye Treasurer of this Commonwealth be & he is hereby directed to issue Receipts on the Collectors of s^d Town of Winslow in favour of the said Pattee for the Sum of sixteen pounds six shillings & ten pence half penny to be paid out of the last tax assessed on said Town as their quota of three hundred thousand pounds granted & assessed on ye Inhabitants of said Commonwealth which when received by ye said Pattee Shall be a full satisfaction for the provisions supplied ye Indians as aforesaid

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate March 8th 1782

Read & Concurred

S. Adams, Presid^t

Approv'd John Hancock

Postmaster General to Samuel Freeman, Esqr

Phil^a Feb^ry 25th 1782

Sir:

Congress having honored me with an appointment to the Office of Post Master General, it has become my Duty to rectify such Things in the Department as are amiss, some of which have been long continued contrary to my Judgment and Remonstrances. Amongst these is the Post from Portsmouth to Falmouth, which is very expensive, and produces nothing worth mentioning.—I am therefore under a Necessity of discontinuing him after the Expiration of the present Quarter, unless the Inhabitants upon his Route will subscribe

(& satisfactorily secure the Payment of) so far as, with the Postage, will defray the Expence — Mr. Libbey has Directions accordingly — ¶ I am, Sir, Your very hum^l Servt Servt

Eben Hazard

Mr Hall is desired to return this

Superscribed: Samuel Freeman Esqr Post Master at Falmouth

Petition Thos Rice in Behalf County Lincoln.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To the Honble the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court Assembled

¶ Your Petitioner begs the attention & Indulgence of your Honors, while he endeavours to state the peculiar & distressing Circumstances of the County of Lincoln. The Inhabitants from their first settlement, which is of late Date, to the beginning of the present War, employed themselves chiefly in the Fishery & Lumber Business, for the Support of themselves & payment of Taxes and but very little cultivated their Lands. At the Commencement of the present War, when Men were called for to compose a Continental Army, this County, being then no more exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy than many other Parts of the Commonwealth, readily sent more than their Quota into the Field, many of whom have never yet returned. In the year 1779 the Enemy took Possession of Penobscott in the Heart of the County, and hold it to this Day. This step has at once put the Inhabitants, eastward of them, into their Power, and exposed those to the westward, in said County, to every Depredation they were disposed to make — The Advantages in their Power, they have industriously improved, nearly all

our Coasting Vessels & fishing Boats have fell into their Hands, a very considerable part of our rateable Property, and the principal Means of Support & Payment of Taxes. Many of our Houses they have robbed or burn'd and, carried off much of the Stocks of Cattle & Sheep. Tis the Opinion of your Petitioner, that at least three Quarters of the Settlements in this County, are made on the Sea-Shore, Bays & navigable Rivers, accessible to the Enemy in their Ships & Boats; this Circumstance so advantageous to the Enemy, has kept the People under constant Fears, frequent Alarms, & expensive Watching. ¶ The uncommon scarcity of Bread that happened two years since, drained the Inhabitants of the little Silver they had, they then having nothing else that would procure it. Large Quantities of Masts Sparrs & other Lumber, procured at great Expence, has for several years been decaying on our Shores for want of Opportunity to export them. The most severe Drought happened in this County the last Summer, that has been known since its first settlement, by it every Produce of the Earth was greatly diminished, and many of the Inhabitants now destitute of Bread without any prospect how to procure it. The County thus circumstanced (viz destitute of money & the means of procuring it) The Farms in it, by no means sufficient to afford the Necessaries of Life in the best seasons, and the little they commonly produce greatly diminished by the severe Drought & swarms of Worms — large Quantities of Lumber decaying on the Landings — Coasting Vessels & fishing Boats nearly all taken or destroyed — and the Enemy holding a strong Post in the Heart of the County, and on those accounts the People greatly in arrears as to many of the Requisitions of Government, it being impossible to comply with them under such peculiar Distresses, your Petitioner most earnestly entreats your Honors to take the singular Case of said County into your wise Consideration, and in-

stead of demanding Brick in full tail without furnishing the necessary straw, a thought, I know your Honors abhor, to grant us relief, by ordering a suspension of the Demands of Government for Beef, Cloathing & Men, for the Continental Army, and a part of the State Taxes, untill the further Order of the General Court, or untill the Enemy shall be removed from Penobscott, and we put on the same footing with the other parts of the Commonwealth, and in the mean Time that we may be permitted to raise some Men as in the last Season, for the Defence of our sea-Coast, or otherwise relieve said County as to your Wisdom shall seem meet, and your Petitioner as in Duty bound shall ever pray &c

Thos Rice
in behalf of the County of Lincoln

In Senate Feby 26th 1782 —

Read & thereupon Order'd that Thos Durfee & Jona Greenleaf Esqrs with such as the Honorable House shall join, be a Committee to take this Petition into Consideration & make report —

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Preside

In the House of Representatives Feb: 26, 1782

Read & concurred & Genl Lovell Mr Lithgow & Mr Ely are joined Nath Gorham Speaker

Resolve on Treasury Notes.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 28th 1782

Resolved that the Notes which the Treasurer is directed to give by a Resolve passed January 25th 1782: on the Petition of Colonell Paul Revere & others be funded & issued

according to the Act of this State passed in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty two entituled an Act to empower the Treasurer to receive Government Securities on Loan to the Amount of eight hundred thousand Pounds —

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham, Speaker

In Senate March 7th 1782

Read & Concurred

S. Adams Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock.

Resolve on Confiscated Estates.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives Feby 28, 1782

Resolved, That the Committee for Selling confiscated Estates in the County of Cumberland be, and they are hereby directed to suspend the sale of any lands in said County until the further order of the General Court.

Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

In Senate March 8th 1782

Read & Concurred

S. Adams Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Petition of Larkin Thorndike.

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives in General Court assembled

the Petition of Larkin Thorndike humbly Sheweth —

¶ That your Petitioner Being part owner of the ship Black prince & Defence Privateers Lost at the Expedition at

penobscott & having Rec^{d} now part of s^{d} Ships that your petitioner having met with misfortunes at Sea which has reduced him of allmost the whole of his trading stock — Exclusive of what he hath all Ready loaned to this Commonwealth & having made a pirchas of some Lands belonging to the Estate of John Lendell Bowland Esqr absentee & finding it allmost impossible to raise the money to pay for it beg that you would take into Consideration your petitioner situation & grant that as he is willing to Loan two hundred pounds part of the money Dew to him from the Common wealth for his part of the Ship Black prince & Defence Lost at the Expedition at penobscutt which is abought six hundred pounds Lawfull money the other four hundred may be allowed for the payment of the above mentioned Lands or that my Bond may be taken for the four hundred pounds for one year trusting therefore to the Clemency of the Honorable the Senate & house of Representatives he humbly submiting this petition to their wise consideration hoping they will find the reason in it sufficient to grant his request & he will in duty bound ever pray

Larkin Thorndike

Beverly Feb^{r} 28th 1782

Joshua Thomas to Governor.

May it please your Excellency,

¶ Enclosed are the Proceedings of a Genl Court Martial, held on the 19th instant by your Excellencys Orders, for the Tryal of Lut: Col^{o} Paul Revere. ¶ Indisposition & some little Matters of Business, to which I was under the most indispensable Obligations to pay an immediate Attention, have prevented my furnishing your Excellency with a Copy of the Proceedings and Judgement of said Court Martial

earlier than this Day. ¶ I am, with every Sentiment of Respect, your Excellency's most Obedient, and very humble Servant Joshua Thomas

Boston 28th Feby 1782

Proceedings of Court Martial in Case of Paul Revere.

His Excellency John Hancock Esqr

At a General Court-Martial, held at Boston on the 19th Day of Feby, instant by virtue of the Orders of his Excellency John Hancock Esqr Governor & Commander in chief of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, for the Trial of Lieut Colo Paul Revere of the Corps of Artillery late belonging to this State, touching his Behaviour as an Officer when retreating from Major Bagwaduce. ¶ Members ¶ Brigadier Genl Warham Parks President ¶ John Ashley Jun. Seth Cushing Seth Washburn Gideon Burt Ebenr Battle Charles Cushing Joseph Webb Lieut Colo John May Major Captts Edward Farmer Ebenr Mattoon J. B. Vernum Thompson J Skinner Joshua Thomas Judge Advocate ¶ The Members being duely sworn, and the Judge Advocate being also sworn, the following charges against Lieunt Colo Paul Revere were read. ¶ "For his refusing to deliver a certain Boat to the Order of General Wadsworth when upon the Retreat up Penobscot River from Major Begwaduce." ¶ "For his Leaving Penobscot River without Orders from his Commanding Officer." ¶ In Support of the first charge was the Deposition of General Wadsworth. General Wadsworth deposed, "that upon the Retreat of the Army up Penobscot River, a small Schooner having on Board the greatest Part of the Provisions, was then in the Strength of the Tide, drifting down on the Enemy,— that it was in vain that a Number of Boats were ordered to tow her across the Stream, and with much Difficulty that a Boat was got off to take out her Crew,— that in

endeavouring this, he was directly opposed by Lieu^{nt} Col^{o} Revere, who said, that he (the General) had no Right to command either him or the Boat, and gave Orders to the contrary. The Boat, however, went off to the Schooner. The General further deposes, that the Reason Lieu^{nt} Col^{o} Revere assigned for refusing the Boat was, that he had all his private Baggage at Stake, & asked who would thank him for loosing that, in attempting to save the Schooner to the State? ¶ Touching the Second Charge, Capt Perez Cushing deposed, "that upon the Retreat up Penobscot River, Col^{o} Revere to whose Corps he belonged, left him on the Bank of the River, promising to return in a few Minutes,— that he continued there with about forty men he had collected, expecting the Return of Col^{o} Revere, from 5 °Clock till near dark; but saw Nothing of Col^{o} Revere, untill he got to Kennebeck River,— that Col^{o} Revere had an Oppertunity of giving Orders to him and the Men before he & they left Penobscot River, if he had inclined to, but did not." ¶ No other material Evidence being adduced to support the Charges against Lieu^{nt} Col^{o} Revere, he was called upon to make his Defence. ¶ Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Revere acknowledged his Refusal to deliver the Boat mentioned above to the Order of Genl Wadsworth, but observed that the Refusal was made on a sudden and he immediately recollecting that Genl Wadsworth was his Superior Officer, delivered the Boat, and she was employed in the Business Ordered by the General ¶ Respecting the second Charge, Col^{o} Revere observed, that the whole Army was then in a State of Confusion, that he himself came off in company with the Genl Officers, and received the same Orders to leave Penobscot River, as the other Commanding Officers of Corps. ¶ Capt Amos Lincoln testified "to the good Conduct of Col^{o} Revere in general, that he was Judicious, calm, vigilant, and attentive to the Object of the Expedition. ¶ The same Facts were deposed by Lieutenants

Phillips and McIntyer. ¶ Lut Colo Revere having closed his Defense, the Court after maturely deliberating on the whole Evidence, proceeded to make up Judgement as follows. ¶ The Court find the first Charge against Lut Colo Paul Revere to be supported (to wit) his refusing to deliver a certain Boat to the Order of Genl Wadsworth when upon the Retreat up Penobscot River from Major Begaviduce;" but the Court taking into Consideration the Suddenness of the Refusal, and more especially, that the same Boat was in fact employed by Lut Colo Revere to effect the Purpose ordered by the General, as appears by the General's Deposition; are of Opinion, that Lut Colo Paul Revere be acquited of this Charge. ¶ On the Second Charge, the Court considering, that the whole Army was in great Confusion, and so scattered and dispersed, that no regular Orders were or could be given, are of Opinion, that Lut: Colo Revere be acquited with equal Honor as the other Officers in the same Expedition. ¶ A true Copy from the Minutes

Attest: J. Thomas
Judge Advocate

I approve of the opinion of the Court Martial as stated in the foregoing Report—

John Hancock.

Resolve in Behalf County of Lincoln.

The Committee of both Houses to whom was committed the Petition & Memorial of ye Honble Thomas Rice Esqr & others respecting the County of Lincoln ask leave to report the following Resolve

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the house of Representatives March 7th 1782

¶ Whereas it appears from the petition & Memorial of the Honble Thomas Rice Esquire, & others, in behalf of the In-

habitants of the County of Lincoln, that the said Inhabitants from various causes mentioned in said Petitions, are reduced to a situation peculiarly distressing; but more especially from their being constantly exposed to the ravages & depredations of the Enemy; therefore, ¶ Resolved, that One hundred effective Men including non Commissioned Officers be immediately raised by voluntary inlistment in the County of Lincoln for the immediate defence of the same to continue in the service of said Commonwealth untill the first day of Decr next unless sooner discharged; that said Troops shall be properly armed & equipped; that they shall compose 2 Companies of 50 Men each including non Commissioned Officers; that when raised they shall be on the Continental Establishment in every respect; that the whole shall be commanded by a Field Officer; that they shall be mustered by the muster Master hereafter to be appointed, & Officered by the Governor & that they shall be employed as ranging Companies within said County & be under the direction of the Governor, who is hereby empowered, by & with the advice of Council to order the said Troops or any part of them in cases of emergency to march into any part of the Counties of York, Cumberland, & Lincoln ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Officer who shall be appointed to command s^{d} Men be & he is hereby appointed to muster the said Troops & pay them the Bounties hereafter granted by this Resolve. ¶ And as a further encouragement to such persons as may be disposed to inlist in said Service in defence of their Country & the Persons & property of themselves & neighbours it is further ¶ Resolv'd that a Bounty of three pounds p^{r} man in specie shall be allowed & paid to each non Commissioned Officer & private Soldier who shall inlist in said service, on his passing muster, & for the immediate procurement of a Sum of Money adequate to s^{d} purpose, it is further Resolved that the Sum of three hundred Pounds be assessed on the several Towns &

plantations within the s^d County in the following proportions agreable to the last valuation Viz^t on the Town of

Pownalborough	£23	8	10¾
Georgetown	28	8	10¾
Newcastle	17	15	2¼
Woolwich	18	10	¼
Topsham	14	11	3¾
Pittston	8	5	4¼
Winthrop	9	5	4¼
Vassalborough	8	18	5¾
Winslow	8	15	5¾
Bristol	26	18	3½
St Georges	10	18	4¼
Warren	8		7½
Thomaston	8		7½
Howardston	2	18	5¾
Lewiston	3	17	9¾
Balltown	1	18	10¾
Wales		19	5½
Norridgwalk	1	17	4¾
Sterlington	1	12	4¾
Bath	13	15	3
Bowdoinham	9	16	4¾
Hallowell	12	19	5¼
Booth-bay	13	15	3
Waldoborough	19	9	1¼
Edgecomb	13	19	11¾
Medumcook	2	11	10¼
Walpole	3	11	4
Total	300	.. —	.. —

¶ And it is further Resolved that the Select Men and Assessors of the several Towns & plantations aforesaid are hereby required without delay to assess their several Towns &

Plantations in the sums set against them respectively in the above Schedule & make return of said Assessments to the Treasurer of the said County on or before the 15th day of April next & issue their warrants to the Constables or Collectors their respective Towns or plantations requiring them to pay the sums respectively committed to them to collect to the said Treasurer on or before the 10th day of May next who in case of delinquency in any Constable or Collector in not paying in the sum or sums committed to him or them to collect as aforesaid is hereby empowered & directed to issue his Execution or Executions against them in manner provided by law in case of delinquency in collecting County taxes. ¶ And it is further Resolved that the said Treasurer is directed to pay the Sums by him received in pursuance of this Resolve to the said Muster Master taking his receipts therefor, for the expenditure of which the said Muster Master Shall be accountable.

And it is further Resolved that the said Muster Master is empowered & directed to pay to each non Commissioned Officer & Soldier aforesaid the bounty to which they are respectively entitled by this Resolve on their passing Muster taking duplicate Receipts therefor one of which to be lodged in the Secretarys Office ¶ And it is further Resolved that the Several Towns & plantations aforesaid are exempted from raising any part of their respective quotas of 1500 men for the Continental Army, assessed on the several Towns & plantations within this Commonwealth by a resolve of the first day of March current. ¶ And it is further Resolved that the demand for Men for the army agreable to sd requisition of the General Court of ye sd day of Decr 1780 so far as it respects the said Towns & plantations is suspended untill the further Orders of the General Court, provided, notwithstanding that such Men as have been raised by any of the said Towns & Plantations by Virtue of the last mentioned Resolve shall be held

to join the Army as tho' this Resolve had never passed. ¶ And Whereas it is absolutely necessary for the good of the Service that the said Troops should have an early constant & adequate Supply of provisions & warlike Stores, it is therefore further Resolved that on application made by the Commanding Officer aforesaid to the Commissary General of this Commonwealth for provision & warlike stores for the use of the Troops under his Command the said Commissary is directed to lay such application before the General Court if sitting that such order may be taken thereon as may by said Court be deemed expedient and if any such application should be made to the said Commissary General during the recess of the General Court he is directed to lay the same before the Governor & Council & the Governor is requested to issue such immediate Orders to the said Commissary General for procuring & forwarding such Articles of provision or warlike Stores or any part thereof to said County as he with the advice of Council may from time to time judge expedient for the good of the Service which Supplies shall be charged to the United States.

And it is further Resolved that the Agent of this Commonwealth is directed to procure & forward to said Commanding Officer as soon as may be five good Whale Boats for the use of said Troops & that the same be charged to the United States and if the said Agent should judge it expedient to procure said Boats or any of them in the Counties of Lincoln or Cumberland the Treasurer of said Commonwealth directed to issue his receipts or any of the Constables or Collectors of said Counties respectively in favour of such person or persons with whom the said Agent may contract for the purpose aforesaid to the amount of the Sum or Sums so contracted for if the said Agent shall judge it expedient the said Agent procuring a Warrant Agreable to the Constitution therefore —

And whereas it is probable that the Beef collected for the use of the Continent in the County of Cumberland may be wanted for the use of the Troops to be raised by this or any subsequent Resolve in the Eastern Counties it is therefore further Resolved the said Beef be retained in said County untill the further Order of the General Court any resolve to the contrary notwithstanding and the Agent for the said County is directed to secure the same in some place of safety any Resolve to the contrary notwithstanding — ¶ And it is further Resolved that if any of the Select Men or Assessors of the said Towns or plantations shall neglect to make the Assessments required by this Resolve or shall neglect to make return of the same as afores^d^ they shall respectively forfeit & pay to the use of this Commonwealth the Sum of fifty pounds to be recovered by action of debt by such person as the General Court may hereafter appoint for s^d^ purpose ¶ And it is further resolved that the Secretary be directed to procure twenty seven printed Copies of this Resolve, and to take the earliest Opportunity to forward one, to each Town & Plantation in said County.

In Senate March 7th 1782
Read & sent down S Adams Presid^t^

In the House of Representatives March 7, 1782
Read and accepted
Sent up for concurrence
Nath Gorham, Speaker

In Senate March 7, 1782
Read & Concurred with Amendment at A
Sent down for Concurrence S Adams Presid^t^
¶ at A insert, agreable to a Resolve of Congress

In the House of Representatives March 7, 1782
Read & concurred Nath Gorham Speaker
Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Relating to Losses of Towns.

Resolve, directing the Selectmen of those Towns where the Enemy have made depredations, to cause an account thereof to be transmitted to the Secretarys office,— pass'd March 8th 1782 ¶ "Resolve, that the Selectmen of those Towns within this Commonwealth wherein the enemy have made wanton destruction of property, be, & they hereby are required, to cause to be transmitted to the Secretary's Office, within sixty days from the date hereof, a fair and just return of the damage thereby done, which damage, particularly that to real property) is to be ascertained by the affidavits of people of known good character, & if possible to be accompanied with a short recital of the conduct of the enemy in each transaction."

Account of Damage done by the Enemy to the Inhabitants in the several Towns in this Commonwealth — taken agreeable to Resolve of the General Court pass'd 8th March 1782 Vizt

Boston — —	County of Suffolk	£323,074 .. 14 .. 6
Dorchester	Do	2,273 .. 17 .. 10
Falmouth —	County of Cumberland	54,741 .. 19 .. —
Total		£380,090 .. 11 .. 4

Col. Allan to the Governor.

Machias March 8th 1782

Sirs —

I had the Honour of Writing Your Excellency a few days Ago by a French Gentleman Expecting by this Time to have been able to have Compleated a General State of Matters in this Department, but Continuing very Unwell, will Also I

fear prevent it by this Oppertunity — ¶ This will be delivered your Excellency By Lieut. DeLesdernier, who I have Impowered to Transact the Business of the Department in Boston, & who will receive any Orders or Commands that may be thot necessary — ¶ The Great discontent which took place Among the Indians Last Summer, in not having Necessary Supplys, & the Trade not being in a Manner: Agreeable to their Expectations, withdrew to the River St Johns, where every Step has been taken & means used to detain them, what their Detirmination is, is still Unknown — But shall proceed Amoung them as soon as the Season will permit.

It appears by the manner in which Any Supplys have lately Come, is perticularly confined to the Post of Mechias, and As it has been Generaly thro necessity the Head Quarters — it Look'd upon to be the principal object in the Indian Business — This was verry Foreign from my Intentions, as the place itself is noways Calculated for Indians, being destitute of Fishing, Fowling and Hunting — it Never was Intended, only as a Temporary retreat for them, Always Intending to remove Eastward when the country was in a State of Security & safety, For the Comfort & Satisfaction of the Indians, as well as Advantageous & more profitable for the States, & woud Also Secure a Great Extent of Country with an Open Communication to Nova Scotia & Canada all which Government has been Acquainted with —

Matters being thus Confind to Mechias, The Troops for the Indian Business Under my Command being Continued at the Post, and the Injunction upon myself in a Military Capacity, retards & obstructs the Original Business Orderd by Congress, of Securing the Indian Interest. As the State of the Country now is & has been for some time past. The Militia being properly Organized & under the Command of Men of Undoubted Abilitys, there needs not more then a Subalterns or a Non Commission^d^ Officer's Command for the

Care of the Fort — from this the Expence for the sole care of this Post as nothing can be done with Indians for want of Necessarys & payment for men Is Burthensom & Unprofitable to the States, And thro this Channell Under coular of the Indian Department I find many Matters has been obtained from Governm^t & Resolves & Orders passd unbeknown to me, must Request for the future, nothing may be Allowed without a Certificate as my Intention is to use as much Economy as possible — I have made a Practice during the Agency to make Alterations when necessary and never Allow'd more in Office, or for a Longer time then was necessary for the business Intended. The department was of such a nature that nothing permanent coud be Established — ¶ I have therefore to Acquaint Your Excellency that if not Otherways ordered I purpose moveing Immediately near to the River St Croix, the Boundrys between the Province of main and Acadia where the Indians have agreed to joyn me, By which I shall be more Able with Less Expence to Negociate the Business orderd by Congress, will be the means of stoping the Enemy in pursuing their design of securing those parts they having Erected another Fort on St Johns River for the purpose with many other advanges — and must request that the Post of Mechias be not Considered as Concernd in said Business The whole is so triffleing at present, I thot it prudent as far as my authority Extended to Reduce the Staff department & others not Usefull — For my Business I shall want the men which I have Retaind with me, as well as some necessary Ar^tickles from the Fort which may be easily spared I have also sent a memorial to your Excellency and the Honorable Court for some supplys & assistance, to Enable me to prosicute the business, this with the Troops pay Roll I must Earnestly pray & request may be attended to with all speed and Assistance Granted as soon as possible ¶ I must Also Inform your Excellency that there is several

privateers Commissions this way under the Sanction of which Quantity of Rum & other matters are conveyd to Nova Scotia and Bagaduce and an Illicite Trade Open^d & Countinenced by Numbers in the Country — ¶ After the Spring business with the Indians is accomplished must agen Solicite Your Excellencys Indulgence to Grant me Liberty of Absence to Go Westward — as I have not settled any Account since the begining of Last Year, Expecting to go up & not Chusing to Trust my Accounts any more without my Attendence Mr DeLesdernier, who has been Constant with me in every transaction with Indians, will acquaint Your Excellency of any matter respecting the Affairs of this Country ¶ I have the Honour to Be with very Great Respect ¶ Your Excellencys most obd & Devoted Hble

J Allan

Petition of John Allan.

Indian Eastern Department

To the Hono^ble Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

¶ The Petition of John Allan Continental Agent for Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department — Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner having at present the direction of the Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department Under the Authority of the want of every Necessary for the Purpose — ¶ The Principle part of the Indians being at present drawn away to St Johns, it will Require a Speedy Assistance, that an early Excursion may be made to Secure their Interests as every Step will be taken on St Johns and from Canada to detain them in the British Interest — ¶ Mechias being No Ways Calculated for Indians & their Constant Attendence Not Necessary at that Place, Their Inclination being where

Fish, Fowls &c, Can be procured, which Must Greatly Reduce Any Expence — Your Petitioner Intends immediately to remove up a River at Passamaquody, where he hopes By the Blessings of Providence to Keep a Great part of them in Interest — ¶ Therefore your Petitioner, Humbly Requests that your Honours woud be pleased to Grant, & Order to be immediately Delivered to Lieutenant Lewis Fred^{k} De Lesdernier, for the use of the Indian Business, Itself, Two Months — Rations for Twenty five persons Employed in the Service, Four Barrils of Powder — 1600 wh^{t} of Shott & Ball, 1000 Flints, One Hh^{d} Tobacco, One pipe small Wine, One Hh^{d} Rum & Ten Good felling Axes, As Also the Sum of Two Hundred pounds for Contingencys & payment of other small Debts Contracted — Your Petitioner further Prays that your Excellency & Honours woud be pleased to Grant Some Indian Corn and one Hh^{d} of Molases for the Use of Indians when call'd together, & other necessary Demands in the course of the Business that cannot be Evited — ¶ The whole Humbly submited to the Ditermination of the Honorable Court . Bye

J Allan

Machias Commonwealth of Massachusetts March 8th 1782

Stephen Jones to the Governor.

Machias March 9th 1782

Sir

Some late proceedings of Colonel Fosters, who was Commanding Officer of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in the County of Lincoln, haveing touched my honour in a most sensible manner, Am under the necessity of applying to your Excelency for Redress. Colonel Foster Issued Summonses on the Sixth of November last, to the Captains & Subalterns

of the Regiment to meet on the twenty first of the Same month, to Elect the Field officers of the Regiment. Twelve officers met on the day appointed, and having no persons present (but the Electors) to influence them in there deliberations, they proceeded to the Election, and Alexander Campbell Esqr, had twelve votes for Colonel, I had Eleven Votes for Lieutenant Colonel, and Mr Jabez Simpson Seven votes for Major — We were declared by the moderator to be duly elected, and notified by him of our appointment and we certified to him our acceptance. About two months afterwards Colonel Foster told the Moderator that he had received a letter from Colonel Campbell, in which was inclosed a letter from Lieu^{t} Bane, of Frenchman's Bay Company, wherein he complains that he and Lieu^{t} Clark, of the Same Company, did not receive there Summonses Seasonably enough to attend the meeting, and that they and several more of the Inhabitants of Frenchmans Bay, were displeased with Mr Simpsons being appointed major, but at the same time expressed there entire satisfaction in Colonel Campbells and my appointment. Colonel Foster and a few other persons here, being some what disapointed in my haveing the Lieut Colonelcy, he was glad to catch at any thing where there was the least prospect of throwing me out and for that purpose Issued new Summonses to the Captains and Subalterns to meet on the sixth Instant, to enquire into the legality of the meeting on the twenty first of November, and if they should consider it to be Illegal, then for them to Chuse a Colonel, Lieut Colonel and Major. Ten legal officers met on the day appointed, but it being Rany and they expecting three officers more, waited untill the next day about twelve oclock, when the three officers expected arrived, They then formed themselves into a body, Chose a Moderator and without ever making any regular enquiery (after being embodyed) into the legality of the former meeting, they proceeded to

chuseing Field officers, and made Choice of Colonel Campbell again for Colonel, Captain Jeremiah Obrian had nine votes for Lieut Colonel and Captain Joseph Wallis, eight votes for Major, and they were declared to be elected, it appeared to me and others that were present, that every artifice was used by Colonel Foster, his adjutant, and Several others, to influence and prejudice the minds of the Electors against me, whereby the freedom of Election, was in a great measure destroyed. but Several of my friends, as well as my self, Considered the whole of the proceedings from the Issueing of the last Summons, to the disolution of the meeting, to be wholly Illegal, therefore made no opposition. We were of oppinion that the whole was a piece of artifice, to give an opertunity to create a division, in order to have some plea for a new Election, of all the Field officers, it apears to us that Colonel Foster had no right, or authority, to order an enquiery to be made into the legality of the first meeting. the only objection they had against the legality of it, was Lieu^t^ Bane & Clarks not being notified in season to attend, and that matter we thought ought to have been referred to your Excelency's decision — I have at Captain Talbot's Request inclosed a Coppy of his reasons of disent against the legality of the first meeting. We that are agreed, appeal to your Excelency, Wheither Beans, & Clarks, not being notified in season, can destroy the legality of the first meeting, there being more than half the officers of the Regiment present and Lieut Bean & Clark had expressed an entire satisfaction in the two first officers of the Regiment. We also desire to submit to your decision wheither Colonel Foster had any legal Authority to Summons the last meeting, and require the officers to decide upon the legality of the first meeting, as they were all parties Concerned, and wheither they could when assembled, lawfully proceed to a new election of Field officers. If the first meeting was legal, I shall expect my Commission, but

if it was not, Shall depend on your Excelencys giving such orders and directions respecting the matter as shall be agreeable to the laws, and Consistent with our Rights and priviledges. ¶ I have not the honour of being Personaly acquainted with your Excelency, and Should you desire to know any particulars respecting my character, and abilities, you may inform yourself by inquireing of Colo Hichborn and John Coffin Jones Esqr of Boston

¶ I beg your Excelencys pardon for troubling you with so long a letter, which I should not have done, had not I apprehended that the Electors Rights and priviledges were infringed, as well as my own — ¶ I have the honnour to be your Excellency's ¶ Most Obedient Humble Servt

Stephen Jones

P. Talbot to the Governor.

His Excelency John Hancock Esqr

Whereas a number of the Captains and Subalterns, of the Sixth Regiment of Militia in the County of Lincoln, did assemble themselves into a Body on thursday the Seventh of this Instant March, in pursuance of a Summons Issued by Benjamin Foster Esqr, late Colonel of said Regiment, to meet at the dwelling house of Capt John Bucknam at pleasant River, on wednesday the sixth of this Instant, at ten oclock before noon, to enquire into the legality of the proceedings of the meeting of said Captain and Subalterns on the twenty first of November last -- ¶ And Whereas the said Captains and Subalterns, did on the said Seventh day of March, proceed to the Election of field officers. Therefore I the Subscriber Considering the said proceedings of the said Captains and Subalterns on the said Seventh day of March, to be wholy Illegal, do as a free and Independent Elector enter my

disent against said proceedings — ¶ First because that I am of opinion that Colonel Foster had no legal authority to order or enquire into the legality of the proceedings of the s^d^ Captains and Subalterns on the twenty first of November last — ¶ Secondly If Colonel Foster had sufficient authourity, the business the said Captains and Subalterns, were Summoned to meet for, was not attended to, for they were summoned to meet on the Sixth of this Instant at ten oclock, which they did not do, for altho part of them assembled, yet they did not form themselves into a regular body on said day by chusing a moderator — ¶ thirdly Because when they were Assembled on the Seventh, and had Chose a moderator, they did not make a due and Regular enquiery into the proceedings of the meeting on the twenty first of November last; as the summons required, but proceeded to a new Choice of field officers ¶ fourthly because I believe that Colonel Benjamin Foster, Capt Jonas Farnsworth, and others were tampering and using there endeavours to prejudice and influence the minds of the Electors against the Gentlemen that were Chosen Lieu^t^ Colonel, and Major, at the meeting on the twenty first of November last. (from the time of the first assembling of the said Captains & Subalterns on the Sixth untill the final Issue of the said choice made on the Seventh) whereby it was not a free and due election ¶ fifthly because the Captains and Subalterns of said Regiment were Summoned by said Colonel Benjamin Foster, to meet at said Bucknams, at said Pleasant River on the twenty first day of November last; for the purpose of chuseing one Colonel, one Lieu^t^ Colonel, and one Major, on which day more than a Majority of the said Captains and Subalterns did meet and Chose there Field officers agreable to said Summons, of which the gentlemen elected had due notice and signified there acceptance ¶ Sixthly Because Lieu^t^ Joel Whitney one of the Electors on the Seventh, was Elected a Subaltern on

the fourth Instant at Chandlers River, were there is not a sufficient number of men for a Company agreable to law, and therefore not entitled to have any officers at said plantations accept they were united with some Company ¶ Signed

P. Talbot.

Certificate in re Sloop Centurian.

Boston March 14 1782

This Certifies —

That the sum of Two hundred & eight pounds twelve shillings & four pence for the Balance of the loss of hire of the Sloop Centurian a Transport on the Penobs^{t} Expedition 1779, together with Thirty five pounds six shillings & three pence for Interest, amounting in all to Two hundred forty three pounds eighteen shillings & seven pence specie, is due to Capt William McLellan which when paid will be in full said Loss & hire & also his own Wages as Master of s^{d} Sloop —

Alex Hill } Com^{tee} for auditing
Thomas Ivers } the a/c^{s} of the B^{d} War.

His Excellency The Governor The Hon^{l} The Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council March 14 1782

R^{d} & Advised that a W^{t} be drawn on the Treas^{y} for £243 .. 18 .. 7 in full of this Certificate agreable to Resolve of 28th January last. John Avery Sec^{y}

Certificate in re Sloop Fortune.

Boston March 15, 1782

This Certifies

That the Sum of Three hundred fifty two pounds six shillings & ten pence for the Loss, Hire & Masters Wages of the Sloop Fortune on the Expedition to Penobscot 1779 with

Fifty one pounds one shilling & five pence for Interest thereon amounts to Four hundred & three pounds eight shillings & three pence, is due to Capt David Drinkwater, which when paid will be in full

Alex Hill } Com^{tee} for Audit^{g} the
Thomas Ivers } Accounts of the Board of War

His Excellency the Governor & The Hon^{a} The Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council March 19th 1782

R^{d} & Advised That a W^{t} be drawn on the Treas^{y} for £403 .. 8 .. 3 in full of this Certificate agreeable to Resolve of 20th January 1782. John Avery Sec^{y}

Petition of Amos Lincoln.

To his Excellency John Hancock Esqr Captain General and Governor in Chief and the Honorable Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

The Petition of Amos Lincoln Capt of a Comp^{y} of Matrosses in the Services of the Commonwealth — Humbly Sheweth that agreable to a Resolve of the General Court past April 27th 1780 the Soldiers that is Inlisted into said Com^{y} are intitle to a Suite of Clouthes Yearly whilist in said Service that they been in the Service allmost two years and have not Receiv^{d} but one Suite of Clouthes and being greate Want of them, ¶ Your Petitioner Humbly pray your Excellency and Honours will be Pleased to give Orders upon Mr Wales and Davis Cloathiers for this State for to Deliver a Suite of Cloathes for Each Soldiers Agreable to the Inlisting Orders upon my Making a Return to them of the Soldiers that is been in the Service above one year and in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray —

Amos Lincoln Capt

Boston March 18 1782

In Council March 20, 1782

Advised that Ebenezer Wales Esqr & Capt Amasa Davis a Committee of Supplies be directed to supply the Company of Matrosses in the Service of this Commonwealth under the Command of Capt Amos Lincoln with a Suit of Cloaths each agreeably to the Establishment passed the General Court April 27th 1780 as by the List of said men hereto Annexed —

Attest John Avery Sec^{y}

Certificate in re Sloop Sparrow.

Boston March 27 1782

This Certifies

That the sum of Three hundred forty nine pounds, twelve shillings & eleven pence, for the Loss & hire of the Sloop Sparrow a Transport on the Expedition to Penobscot 1779 with the master of said Vessell and three Mens wages, with forty eight pounds eighteen shillings & ten pence for Interest thereon, amounts to Three hundred ninety eight pounds eleven shillings & nine pence, is due to Capt Samuel Drinkwater, which when paid to him will be in full.—

Thomas Ivers } Com^{te} for audit^{g} the a/c^{ts} of ye B^{d} War

His Excellency the Governor & The Hon^{l} The Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In Council March 27th 1782

R^{d} & advised that a W^{t} be drawn on the Treas^{y} for £398 .. 11 .. 9 in full of this Certificate

John Avery Sec^{y}

Memorial of Lewis Fred^{k} DeLesdernier.

To His Excellency The Governor & The Hono^{ble} Council

¶ The Memorial of Lew F. DeLesdernier in Behalf of Col^{o} John Allan Continental Superintendent of Indians

Eastern Department — Humbly Sheweth — ¶ That your Memorialist being Appointed Agent to Col° Allan and by him Instructed to wait on Government to Solicite Immediate Assistance to Enable the Superintendent to prosecute his Business with the Indians as early as possible in the Spring — And finding it Highly Necessary to Fix his Head Quarters Nearer to the Indians on the Boundrys of Nova Scotia, About Sixty Miles to the Eastward of Mechias — Therefore your Memorialist is directed by Col° Allan to Solicite and Apply to your Excellency & Honors, to Be pleased to Grant Leave to Remove part of the Artiliary & Ordnance Stores Now at the Post of Mechias, to the River Scudeck in Pasamaquody, And to Grant Ten Small Arms to be Given certain of the Indians that have the Strongest Attachment to the America Cause — ¶ And Your Memorialist as in duty bound shall every pray

Lew^ls Fred^k DeLesdernier

Boston, March 28th 1782

Memorial of DeLesdernier to Governor.

Boston Apr^l 1, 1782

Sir.

I take the Liberty of troubling our Excellency in Behalf of Col° Allan Superintend of Indian Affairs in the Eastern Department, Who has Constituted me, his Agent with directions and Instructions to Wait on Governm^t to Represent the Extreeme Indigent State of, And to Solicite aid for, that Department — ¶ In its present Situation, it is Impossible for it to Exist much Longer without Immediate Assistance & Suport, which if not obtain'd early this Spring Must be Attended with the worst Consequences — The Public Credit there Exhausted not a peney of Money, & not a Mouthfull of provisions by this Time, as

there was not more than three weeks Rations remaining in the Stores at the time of my Departure — The Court not setting makes it verry difficult, and before it meets and decides on the Application presented, the Season will be so far advanced that the Assistance Solicited for, will not so Effectualy promote the Public Service in the Indian Business, as at this Juncture —

A Vessell Going for Mechias which in a few days will sail, Urges me to Earnestly Intreat a Consideration of the Applications of Col° Allan, And Humbly Request a defenitive Answer of what may be done, that I may Inform him of the Determination of Government Respecting the Several Matters in Question —

I also presume On Your Excellency's Candid Sentiments towards the distressed and Implore the favour of being Considerd in the Petition in Behalf of my self presented here with — I am with Great Respect Your Excellencys Most Obediant Hum^l Servant

Lew Fred DeLesdernier

P. S. I beg Leave to Mention there is a Resolve of February 1781 Impowering Your Excellency to Grant Supplys for the Troops Raisd by Order of Congress which Are those now in Service —

Report to Commissary General.

Sir, Agreeable to the resolve of the General Court of Massachusetts, of March the Seventh, that the troops under my Command, should have an early, constant and adequate suply of provisions and warlike Stores, — that on application to your Excellency, for such suplies, they should be sent on immediately, — therefore I have done my self the pleasure, to

enclose your Excellency, a list of such necessary's, that is wanted in the eastern Department, ¶ From Your Excellency's Very Hum^{ble} Ser^{vant}
April ye 4 1782
His Excellency Commissary General, James Hunter Lieu^{t} Col^{o} Comm^{dt} Boston

An acount of warlike Stores and provisions, wanted for the officers and men, under my Command, for the eastern Department ¶ Guns &cc &cc &cc ¶ 10 tents 20 Camp kittles dragg ropes bouls and Buckets Canteens Napsacks Blankets intrenching tools, a few Carpenters tools axes and tommehoaks Cartrige paper writeing paper ink Powder Sealing wax, or wafers, Soap and Candles 2 Drums, and 2 fifes, 1 Doct^{rs} Box, medicins, Likewise provisions, in order that I may take post immediately,
April ye 4 1782
N. B. some saile boat nails, Canvis and pitch for repairing the Said boats.

Eben^{r} Preble to Governor and Council.

To his Excellency the Governor & the Honble the Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ This may Certify your Excellency and Honors that on my arrival at Penobscot with my sister Oxnard, Commadore Mowatt immediately took possession of my Vessell, and put on Board a Number of Prisoners for Salem, not suffering me to transact the Business of Nathaniel Coffin, agreeable to the permit (Obtained by him) Dated August the sixteenth, which now accompany's this Certificate
Falmouth 4th April 1782 Eben^{r} Preble

Memorial Selectmen of Berwick.

Berwick April 5th 1782

John Hill Esqr

Sr at this time of difficulty & distress with the people in general in this Town constrains us to express our Sentiments to You on their Respective making no doubt but You will do every thing in Your power consistent with Justice for their relief We wou'd not wish if it was in Your power to have any exclusive right or favour granted by the General Court to this Town but what We wou'd have You ask & Petition for in your opinion is a mere matter of right & Justice not only for this Town but for all other Towns & places in this Eastern part of the Commonwealth — Every Avenue is now shut up where the people in this Town has at all times since this unhappy contest been enabled to comply with every requisition that has been made by the General Court for Men & Money and We apprehend have succeeded as well as most Towns have done — 'tis true the requisition for filling up the Continental Army the last Year by some fatality were disappointed We had a number of Men deficient altho every exertion was made for procuring the Men We are very certain it was not for want a sufficient reward being offered as the several deficient Clauses left it with the Men who they apply'd to to set their own price but nothing would induce them to engage in the service at that time — the last fall of the Year there was a number of Men appeared willing to engage in the service for three Years & the several deficient Classes agreed with them at their own price which upon an average was about ninety pounds pr Man but there being a number of Quakers who refused to do any thing in the matter & the peculiar circumstances of some other of the Classes prevented the Quota of Men from being got by the 20th of December & Several that were procured about that time by reason of the absence of the Muster Master & Superintend-

ant at the time of their engagements receits cou'd not be had 'till after the 20th of Decr which greatly retarded the business & We understand that by a late resolve of the General Court that the Collectors are di-rected not to Discharge any more than £85 — 13 — 9 of the Tax committed to them to collect for each Man that the Superintendant shall give his receit for after the 20th of Decr & if that resolve should be put in execution & the fines exacted from the Classes whose receits bears date after the 20th of Decr will throw them into such confusion & distress that We should dread the consequence as what many of them has paid & promis'd to pay will take almost all from them that they had to depend upon to support themselves & Families & a great part of the Taxes for the last Year remains unpaid & a new requisition is now made upon us for Men & Money — The scarcity of Money is such that if some avenue is not opened for bringing Mony into this & other Towns in this County it will be impossible for the People to pay what is already laid upon them — We have nothing here to raise Mony upon but Lumber & no Mony comes in for that & our Vessels are almost all taken by the Enemy for want of Vessels We can't send our lumber to market & none comes here to purchase — these are some of our peculiar difficulties the People labour under and unless some Avenue opens upon us We apprehend however well dispos'd People are in Supporting Government it will be out of their power to pay their Taxes & to have this additional fine paid there is not personal Estate in the Town sufficient to do it — We therefore hope you will Seperately or jointly with the other members of this County lay these matters before the General Court at the approaching session & use Your influence that all the Classes who have got their Men before this time & are march'd may be discharg'd as the whole of the Assesment of £128 — 9 — 6 & likewise to represent the true state of our difficulties relating to the Scarcity

of Mony & that the People may not be burthened greater than they can bare ¶ We are Sr With Esteem Your most Ob^t: H Servt

Joseph Fogg, Elijah Hayes Selectmen
Jedidiah Goodwin, Wm Happen of Berwick

Superscribed: To John Hill Esqr Representative of the Town of Berwick

Petition of Nathaniel Coffin.

To his Excellency the Governor and the Hon^l Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

¶ The Petition of Nathaniel Coffin of Falm^o in the County of Cumberland Humbly shews, That your Petitioner's Brother Francis Coffin removed from said Falmouth in June 1773 to Great Britain, from whence he followed the Sea till Decemb^r 1777 when he died, leaving your Petitioner and a Maiden Sister residing with him in Falmouth among his Heirs: That your Petitioner has never had an opportunity of any certain Intelligence what Effects his brother left, or what probable Mode of obtaining them with safety, till within a few Months when he was informed by an open Letter from Mr Robert Pagan at Penobscot, that sundry articles part of said Effects are transmited to him to be delivered to your Petitioner or order — Wherefore as your Petitioner humbly presumes your Excellency and Honors will not consider the receiving said Effects as injurious, but on the contrary beneficial to the Commonwealth, of which your Petitioner is an Inhabitant, so he humbly prays your Excellency & Honors special Leave to go for the same to Penobscot in the small Schooner call'd the Hum-Bird — and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray

Nathaniel Coffin

Falmouth April 8th 1782

Petition of Sam[l] and Abigail Sewall.

To the Hon[ble] the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Humbly shew, ¶ Samuel Sewall of Marblehead in the County of Essex Esquire, and Abigail his wife, that your Petitioners are seised and possessed in right of said Abigail in fee of sundry Lots of land and a Proprietors Right in the Township of Windham in the County of Cumberland — that your Petitioners have no means of improving said Lots and are not likely to have any, and they remain totally unimproved, and by reason of the heavy taxes levied upon the same, the Interest of your Petitioners in said Township has become a burden and loss to them, and from the peculiar circumstances of your Petitioners they cannot be relieved therefrom without the aid of this Hon[ble] Court the said Abigail being under the age of twentyone years — Wherefore your Petitioners humbly pray this Hon[ble] Court that they may be impowered to sell and dispose of the said Tracts of land and Right in the Township aforesaid either in whole or in part as they shall find most conducive to their mutual interest and advantage, the legal disability of the said Abigail notwithstanding that this hon[ble] Court would take such Orders thereon as to their wisdom shall seem best — and your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Sam[l] Sewall

Marblehead April 9th 1782. Abigail Sewall

Memorial Inhabitants of Falmouth.

To the Honorable Senate and the Honorable House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled —

¶ The Inhabitants of the Town of Falmouth and the vicinity, who suffered by the destruction of Property which

the Enemy made in said Town in the Year 1775, humbly ask your Honors attention to the subject matter of the following Petition

Before the present Contest with Great Britain commenced most of us were in comfortable Circumstances a kind of Providence had blest us with good Estates and smiled upon our honest labours in the improvement of them — From his bountiful hand we were supplied with the necessaries of Life — Our Dwelling Places were Houses of our own — With the distresses of Poverty we were unacquainted and no pinching Want alloyed our Happiness — We could pay our Taxes without distressing our Families and afford a part of our Income to Supply the wants of the poor and needy — But the wanton cruelty of our Enemies has interrupted us in these Enjoyments and reversed the happy condition we were in — ¶ Our Houses have been burnt — Our Vessels & other property have been destroyed by the Flames which they enkindled — In one day were we reduced from a flourishing situation and made the subjects of Distress. Deprived of our usual places of abode and reduced to want by the destruction of our Effects we were forced to flee for Shelter and Relief to places in the Country where we found it difficult extremely difficult to procure subsistence — But by the Care of Providence and the assistance of our Friends we were relieved from our first Distresses, and with persevering patience have been carried through those which followed, to this day; and we have not only for near seven years struggled through the hard fortune we were brought to, and with peculiar difficulty provided for ourselves and families but being zealously inclined to afford our Country all the Aid we could, to maintain our invaded Rights and Liberties, and buoyed up with the hopes of seeing them established upon a fixed and permanent Basis we have cheerfully complied to the extent of our Abilities with all the Requisitions made

upon us to support the War — ¶ But may it please your Honours, our unhappy situation at length impels us to ask relief — Although the Flames of 1775 spread Devastation through the Town, they did not bring upon us all the Evils we now experience — There were some whose property escaped their Rage, and this property was employed soon after in building and equipping Privateers to cruise against the Enemy — But as misfortunes seldom come alone, these vessels were taken by the Enemy, and our hopes of better fortune were disappointed — We have now belonging to this Town but three quarters of one ship half a Brig, three or four Small Coasting Vessels, and a few fishing Boats — although at the beginning of the War we had forty Sail of Vessels in the West India & other foreign Trade — ¶ We do not repent of our exertions in the Public Cause, but from the great proportion of Men we have furnished the Army with. For our own Quota and that of other Towns, as well as the great number of Seamen which have gone from us whereby our numbers have been exceedingly diminished, our Burthens have become extremely heavy — The number of our Widows in consequence thereof, is very greatly increased — Our Poor are multiplied among us — and Poverty itself seems to be coming upon us like an armed Man — ¶ As the Sea Ports are the Barriers of the Country, it is not to be wondered at, that (excepting some Places which have been successful in Privateering) they should suffer more than other towns in the Attacks and Depredations of the Enemy — We in this town have really suffered much. Our Trade is lost — Our Navigation and Fishery on which we principally depended for support, have in a manner come to nothing — From our exposed situation our little Business is often interrupted by Alarms of the Enemy's Approach — and by being frequently obliged to remove our effects are continually harrassed and put to great expence. ¶ Their Cruisers are almost daily

infesting our Coasts and scarce a fishing Boat goes out that is not taken and carried to Baggaduce — ¶ Driven from our former Habitations and obliged to hire places of abode — Thrown out of the Business by which we used to be maintained — Depressed with losses after Losses — and distressed in the manner we have before related — we flatter ourselves your Honors will consider us as Objects worthy of favour & Attention —

Indeed we wish only to stand upon an equal footing with our Brethren at large.— Borne down with sufferings we ask their helping hand to raise us up — ¶ We therefore humbly pray that your Honors will take our Case into your serious consideration, and for relief, grant us in such way and manner as to your Honors shall seem just and reasonable — a Compensation of the Losses we sustained in 1775, an Account whereof we suppose will be immediately laid before your Honors by the Selectmen of the Town — ¶ Then will our Spirits be revived — our Hearts invigorated — and our Hands encouraged still to aid our Country in its important Struggles — and to pursue with Industry and Resolution the Work they find to do — But if your Honors should not judge it proper or expedient fully to comply with this request, we pray that we may have assurance that it shall be done when the Blessings of Peace shall crown our united Efforts — and that so much may at present be afforded us as will be sufficient to discharge the Public Taxes that may be laid upon us until such compensation be obtained — ¶ And your Petitioners as in Duty bound will ever pray — in the name and in behalf of the Sufferers ———

Joseph Noyes
Jno Fox
G Warren
John Thrasher
Moses Plumer
} Committee

Falm° 10th April 1782.

Action on Petition Town of Falmouth.

The Committee on the Petition of the Town of Falmouth setting forth their great losses by reason of said town being burnt by the Enemy in the year 1775 & other losses as set forth in said petition ¶ Your Committee considering the present situation of this Commonwealth, & supposing that at some future time said losses will be considered with other towns in similar circumstances, they therefore report that said petition may lay on the files of this House —

Petition Selectmen of Wells.

To the Honble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in general Court assembled the 10th day of April 1782.

¶ The Petition of the Select Men of Wells humbly shews in Behalf of said Town that they have exerted themselves with the greatest Diligence & Activity for the purpose of procuring the Quota of Soldiers assigned them by the Resolve of Court of the 2^d^ day of December 1780 to serve in the Continental Army three years or during the War but were unable to procure them within the Time limited by the Resolves of Court They furnished & sent forward to the Army Twenty one Soldiers being Three Quarters of their Proportion before the Tenth day of June last at which Time paper Money the only Currency amongst them failed, after which they were absolutely unable to procure & send forward to the Army any Soldiers till after the 20th day of December last the various Persons offered their Service on Condition of the immediate payment of One Hundred Hard Dollars with security for the Residue of the Bounty But it was impossible to procure that Sum. However happily towards the Spring

a Number of Persons inclining to Enter the Service & despairing of Receiving such large Sums of Money paid down immediately, consented to Engage on Condition of the immediate Payment of one Fourth part of the Sum demanded in the Fall in Cash & the Value of the Residue in other Articles in Consequence of which for Bounties Seventy Five Pounds to Ninety Three Pounds lawful money which on an Average was about one Third part higher than was given in said Town in the year 1781 the Residue of the Quota of said Soldiers have been procured & sent forward to the Army, that the Lands in said Town Situated on the Sea Coast are generally very poor & barren do not produce either Corn or Meat for Exportation nor even a Sufficiency for themselves the only Articles on which they depend for raising Money for payment of Taxes & other purposes are Fish & Lumber but principally Lumber which by Reason of the Capture of so many of Merchant Vessels belonging to Boston Salem Newbury Port & other trading Towns they have not in general since the Failure of Paper Money been able to Vend for cash, add to this the Difficulty of procuring Coasters for the purpose of Transporting their Lumber to Market & the many Losses they from Time to Time sustain by means of the British Privateers who constantly infest their Coasts they are Reduced to the most distressing Circumstances They are sorry to say but are obliged to confess that Execution now lie against said Town for a considerable part of their hard Money Tax assessed in the year 1780 which they are unable to pay for Want of Money for the purpose that they owe more than Three Quarters of the Taxes of the Commonwealth assessed on them in the year 1781 & about Eighteen Thousand Weight of Beaf for which they collected the Money last Spring & sent to the Agent but it was Refused being a few days too late They will be obliged to remain in Debt to Government unless Coasters can be procured for the Transportation of

their Lumber to Market & their Coasts better protected Wherefore they pray that their unhappy Case & Circumstances may be taken into the serious Consideration of the Legislature that a total Exemtion from all Penalties & Forfeitures which they have incurred for not procuring said Soldiers sooner may be granted them & that the Treasurer of this Commonwealth may be directed to Recall his Executions for the same Penalties & that such other Relief may be granted to said Town as the Court in their great Wisdom & Compassion may Judge their Circumstances to require & your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray &c

Bavak Manell
Joshua Bragdon
Stephen Larvalege
} Select Men of Wells

Memorial Lt. Col. Ezra Badlam.

Boston April 10, 1782

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court Assembled

¶ The Memorial of Lieut Col Ezra Badlam of the 8th Regt Humbly Sheweth ¶ That your Memorialist having been appointed by the Honorable Secretary at War together with one Commissioned Officer as an Assistant to muster and receive the Recruits delivered at the Post of Boston begs leave to apply for such help & direction from your Honours as the Importance of his Trust and the public Good requires — and humbly to represent to the General Court what aid and assistance may be necessary to enable Your Memorialist to discharge his duty with that Energy & Spirit in which the service, and the public Good of this State are so particularly

Interested — ¶ Whereas in your Honor's resolve of the 1st of March last is appointed four places of Rendezvous at which the Continental Muster Master shall reside Your Memorialist prays your Honours to direct which of those Counties Quotas are to be mustered and received at Boston, and at the other places respectively —

Whereas it is much to be lamented that Desertions has too frequently prevailed in the Course of last Campaign, the want of convenient Quarters for the Troops your Memorialist thinks may have been of one Cause (amongst many others) of the Defection — The Barracks being in a ruinous situation for want of repair — and as your Memorialist is desirous to Establish Guards and proper Discipline to prevent the Troops from scattering after they are delivered and untill they can be properly conducted to Head Quarters, Your Memorialist entreats your Honours to make provision that the Barracks may be put into proper repair

¶ And as pecuniary Rewards may be necessary for the more speedy apprehending Recruits who have deserted the Duty they owe to their respective Towns and the public at large, prays your Honours to make some additional Clause to the Resolve passed by the Honorable Court offering a Reward for apprehending Deserters from the Continentall Army, as it appears that the Bill refers only to such who have actually joined a Regiment — belonging to the Massachusetts Line, who have since left their Corps. — And that the Honorable House will be pleased to direct one of the Printers for this Commonwealth to print such blank Returns and to publish such Advertisements as may be necessary in the prosecution of your Memorialist's duty — ¶ Your Memorialist ever attentive to the public Good is at the same time conscious that the prosecution of his business will be attended with some Additionall Expence more perhaps that your Memorialist wou'd incur on any other stationary duty

— Your Memorialist having been obliged to be answerable for Quarters and an Office for him and his Assistant — Therefore prays the Honorable house to make some reasonable allowance to your Memorialist for the same as to the Wisdom of your Honours shall seem meet —

And Whereas it is necessary that the Recruits Enlisted in Consequence of your Honour's resolve shou'd take the Oaths of Fidelity and Allegiance to the states — And your Memorialist having not received any directions to administer such Oaths, prays the honorable house to give such directions in the Premisses as to Your Honours shall seem proper — ¶ And as in duty bound Your Memorialist will ever pray —

Ezra Badlam

Petition James Avery.

To The Hon'ble Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Petition of James Avery ¶ Humbly Sheweth ¶ That your Petitioner was appointed a Lieutenant in Colo Allans Corps Stationed in the Eastern parts of this Commonwealth in the Year 1777 in the Service of the United States & on the same Establishment as other Continental Troops — the Hon'ble Court in November, 80. Directed the Committee for Settling with the Army, to settle with the officers of Colo Allans Corps in the same manner as the other Officers in the Continental Service, said Committee Accordingly settled with your Petitioner up to the 31st December 1779 — after which your petitioner Drew his Cloathing as other Officers Did, and Received on acct of his pay £8 New Emission pr Month the greatest part at the rate of one Dollar in Specia for four of the New Emission — your petitioner has made

Application to the Committee for settling with the Army, to settle for the Cloathing he has received as well as his Pay, but said Committee thinks they are not Authorized to do it — Therefore your petitioner Humbly Prays your Honors wou'd be pleased to Direct the said Committee to settle with him up to the Time he left the Service in the same manner as other Officers in the Service are — and your petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray —

Ja^{s} Avery

Boston April 10 1782

Memorial Edw Grow in Behalf Joseph Trafton.

Common Welth of Massachusetts

Apr^{l} 15th 1782

To the Honble Senate and House of Representatives

the Memorall of Edw: Grow in behalf of Joseph Trafton of York praying that he the said Trafton may be Indulged with a Flagg to Proceed to Passamaquody and Bring to York a Daughter by the name of Trafton a Widdow with Six or Seven small Children in Distress^{d} Circumstances at the above Traftons one Cost and in Behaf of s^{d} Trafton — your memorialist shall ever &c &c

Edwd Grow

Resolve on Foregoing.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts —

In the House of Representatives April 1782

on the Memorial of Col^{o} Edward Grow in behalf of Joseph Trafton praying that said Trafton might be indulged with a Flagg to proceed to Passamaquody to Bring away his Daugh-

ter that is a widow and Six or Seven Small children who are in Distress[d] Circumstances ¶ Resolved that the prayer of the petition be so far granted as that Joseph Trafton be and he is hereby permitted to provide a Flagg at his owne Expence and proceed to Passamaquody and fetch away his Daughter and her Children and that the said Trafton have permission to carry such Necessary Stores for the Crew in Said Vessel as the Selectmen of the town of York may judg Expedient ¶ and it is further Resolved that Said Vessel with her effects have permission of this Court to proceed to said Passamaquody free from any molestation.

Petition Town of Falmouth.

To the Honourable the Senate and house of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled.

¶ The Petition of the inhabitants of the Town of Falmouth, humbly sheweth, that your petitioners having laboured under extreme difficulty & hardships ever since the destruction made among them by the enemy in the year 1775 are by increasing distresses at length constrained to sue for some relief. We have exerted our selves to comply with every requisition and demand of Government to raise men for the Continental Army. In the year 1777, instead of one seventh part of the inhabitants as required of us by the then General Court and which amounted to 103 men, the Town raised their full proportion on their own account, & furnished 45 more for the public service, which amounted to 148 in the whole. In the year 1778, wishing to exert our selves to the utmost, to put a speedy end to the war they sent into the army fifty volunteers; and ever since have not only strained

every nerve to comply with the several demands of Government, but have also furnished men for their own defence in addition to what has been required of them to reinforce the Continental Army; this your honours are sensible has been attended with an expense greatly distressing to your petitioners in their present circumstances, which, instead of growing easier, are continually becoming more unhappy. Navigation & fishery were the principal means of our support before the war — of these means we are now deprived. Of forty odd sail of vessels employed in foreign trade, not one remains, others built by our strenuous exertions to replace them, are also gone, and we have now remaining — only three quarters of a small Ship, & one half of a Brigantine; of vessels concerned in fishery we have only a few small boats remaining, and even those few rendered almost useless by reason of the enemy who are constantly cruising in this bay. Your petitioners have also been obliged to furnish a guard for the public magazine on this neck ever since the last fall, & still furnish it: and this adds further to our distresses — Your petitioners therefore pray the honourable Court to take their distressed situation into their wise consideration, & remit to them the seven men apportioned on this Town as their quota of fifteen hundred men to be raised in this Commonwealth, for the army of the United States. And your petitioners as in duty bound shall ever pray.—
Falm[t] April 15th 1782

In the name & by order of the Town, in Town meeting this day assembled;

Daniel Dole
John Frothingham,
Daniel Ilsley
Benj Titcomb
John Waite
} Committee

Resolve in Favor Town of Falmouth.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

H° of Representatives June 1782

On the petition of the Town of Falmouth setting forth their distressed situation and praying that the seven men apportioned on them as their Quota of the fifteen hundred men; Ordered to be raised in this Commonwealth, by a Resolve of this Court of the 1st March last. ¶ Resolved that the prayers of the petition be so far granted that if said Town of Falmouth comply with said Resolve of the first of March last. Then the Treasurer of this Commonwealth be, & he hereby is directed to Credit said Town of Falmouth out of the next tax that shall be issued from this Court the full sum that five men ammount to at the average price of said men.

Petition of John Hill for Town of Berwick.

To the Honble Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in Generall Court assembled this 15th day of April 1782

The Petition of John Hill in Behalf of the Selectmen of the town of Berwick in the County of York Humbly Shews that the said town and the several Classes therein have exerted themselves to their utmost for the purpose of procuring the Continentell Soldiers assigned them by the Resolve of Court of the 2nd day of December 1780 but were so unfortunate as to be unable to procure them within the time Limited by the Resolves of Court which Deficiency arose in a considerable degree from the Scarcity of hard money the only Currency of the Common wealth Since last September However in the month of January last and Since that time the

Said town has procured the full Quota assigned said town by Said Resolves for Bounties of ninety pounds and upwards except one Class Consisting Intirely of Quaquers who have not procured a Soldier which will appear By the Return of the Superintendant of Said County and Rects given by Col[l] Crane and maj[r] Pettingill Continentell officers for Receiving the Recruits that Said town are generally in arrears in Regard to taxes for want of mony to pay them and are in the most distressing Circumstances for want of a Circulating Currency amoung them and Labour under many other hardships and Inconveniences unless prevented by the Interposition of the Grace and Compassion of the Legislatives as will appear by a Representation from the Selectmen of said town herewith to be presented Wherefore your petitioner Intreats that the Case and Circumstances of Said town may be Duly attended to by the General Court and that ane Exemtion from all Penalties which they may have incurred for not procuring their Soldiers except the Quaker Case aforesaid may be granted to them with Such other Relief as the Court may think their Circumstances Require and your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever pray

John Hill.

Memorial of Robert Foster.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

¶ Gentlemen — The Memorial of Robert Foster Most Humbly Sheweth ¶ That your memorialist about six years past by Reason of his Attachment to the American Interest & the Imposition of the Tyrannical Government of Nova Scotia was obliged to leave his Family & property in that provence traviling through the Wilderness to take shelter in

the United States & hath had the Honour of Being in the service of the States upwards of Four Years, part of the time as Quartermaster for the Troops at Machias and part of the time as assistant to the Deputy Q^{r} Master Genl and for upwards of two years past your memorialist has not Received any pay or subsistance money nor any Money to procure the least supply for the Department and finding it absolutely necessary for the good of the publick he advanced to a considerable Amount and Rendered his Account to Deputy Q^{r} Master General and Applyed for payment, but has not been able to get any as yet— And as your Memorialist hath a large Family to Support which he hath of late Removed from Nova Scotia to Machias, after being strip'd of what property they had in that provence, and at present are allmost Destitute of the Necessarys of Life— Your Memorialist begs leave further to observe that in the year Seventy Eight he was directed by Col Allen to come to this place to settle some publick Accounts, and during his absence from Machias did not Receive any Rations or Subsistance as will appear by the Commissarys Certificate here with, and the scarcity of provision at Machias hath prevented his Receiving it since; Therefore your memorialist prays your honours will be pleased to permitt him to Receive his two Rations during that time, and likewise the two Rations formaly allowed to persons in his Station in the Quartermaster Generals Department in lue of the Subsistance Money since Allowed them, which cannot at present be obtained, which provision he is desireous of shipping for the Releaf of his Family— which may be some support to them, untill some way may be provided for the payment of his Accountts or grant him such Other Releaf as your Honours in your wisdom may think fit— your Memorialist as in duty bound Shall ever pray

Robert Foster

Boston 15th April 1782

Petition of Daniel Lane.

To the Honor[le] the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court Assembled this 16th of April A. D. 1782

The Petition of Daniel Lane of Buxton in the County of York Late Commander of A Company in the Continental Army Humbly Sheweth. That Your Petitioner Being Desirous To Serve his Country in the Late Glorious Strugle for Liberty Did Enter in to its Service and did Inlist A Company of men to Serve in Said Service and in Venturing my Life almost on a forlorn Hope was Taken Prisoner and being in the Hands of the Salvages was Striped of all my Clothes and Effects and remained in that State Almost Two Years in Which Time the hardships I underwent Destroyed my health which occasioned me a Large Bill of Cost to Phisicians all which your Petitioner has paid out of his own money as well as been hitherto kept out off the most part of his Wages During Said Term which cannot but be Injurious to your Petitioner and his Suffering Family and must render them very unhappy unless your Honors in your great Wisdom and Goodness Shall Devise A Way for our Relief which your Petitioner as in Duty Bound Will Ever Pray —

Daniel Lane

Resolve to Levy in County of York.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In House of Representatives the 16th day of April 1782

Whereas it appears from an Estimate of the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of York, that the Sum of Two Hundred Pounds will be necessary for defraying the Charges of said County for one year next ensuing ¶ Therefore Resolved that there be & hereby is granted a Tax of Two Hundred Pounds to be

apportioned & assessed on the Inhabitants of said County & Estates laying within the same & Collected paid & applied for the Use of said County accordingly to the Laws of the Commonwealth. Sent up for concurrence

Nathaniel Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 16 1782

Read & Concurred S Adams Presid[t]

Approv'd John Hancock

Report Committee to Estimate Expense County York.

The Committee Appoint by the Justices of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of York to make an Estimate of the Expence of Said County for One Year to commence at July 1782, have attended that Service and ask leave to Report the following—

Dominicus Goodwin p[r] order

York April 9th 1782

Hon[ble] Justices of Said Court for their Attendance at said Court at the several Sessions	£ 30 — —
The Grand jurors for Travil & attendance	45 — —
The Petit Jurors for Travil	15 — —
The Sheriff for keeping the Goal Distributing Proclamations, Tax acts Warrents &c	15 — —
Repairing for the County Goal & County house	20 — —
The Amount of Sums which may Probably be paid to Coroners	15 — —
The Sums which will be necessary to make up the Deficiency arising from the Failure of paper Money & Paying for Laying out Highways & other Contingent Charges	60 — —
The Amount of Sums which may Probably be paid in cases of Acquittal &c	30 — —
	£230

An acct of Sums which may probably come into
the Treasury exclusive of the County Tax

By Licenses, Inholders &c	£ 24 — —
By fines Probably	6 — —
	£ 30 — —

York ss at a Court of General Sessions of the peace begun and held at York within and for said County of York Upon the Second Tuesday of April Anno Domini 1782 Read and Approved and Order to be Transmitted to the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as the Law directs —

Tim° Frost Cler

Copy Exam^d p

To the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Certificate Thos Chase in Favor Robt Foster.

Braintree April 16, 1782

This Certifies Whom it may Concern, that the Gen: Court of this Common Wealth, Ordered me to Appoint an ast. D. Q. M. G. at Machias the 5 day of May 1780, I accordingly Appointed Robt Foster Esq. to that department the 5th of the same month May 1780, who was continued in Office untill the last Jany 1781, dureing which time I have not paid him any pay nor subsistance — which according to a Resolve of Congress of the 7 May 1777, is the Rank, pay and Subsistance of a Captain in the Continental Army —

Thos Chase late D Q M G

P. S. the Accounts of his disburstments for the department, was paid out of his own pocket, and all which he could obtain from me, was Continental Certificates, which he has been Obliged to take Consolodted States Notes for

Thos Chase late D Q. M. G.

N. B. his disburstments had nothing to do with his wages and subsistance.

Petition of Jedidiah Preble.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Boston April 19 — 1782

To the Honorable Sennet & House of Representatives, in general Court assembled.

¶ The petition of Jedidiah Preble, in behalf of the Town of Falmouth, Humbly sheweth, that the Town of Falmouth are at Present in a very defenceless Cituation, the Forts and Magazine, are exposed to the Ravages of the Enemy. there is not A Man in the Pay of the Commonwealth in that Town, nor is there any guard at any of the Forts or Magazine, except what the Town furnishes. ¶ Therefore your Petitioner Prays, your Hon^{rs} to take the Distressed Circumstances of Said Town, into your wise Consideration & make such Provition for the defence of that Town as you in your wisdom shall see needfull & your Petition as in Duty Bound Shall Pray

Jedidiah Preble

Action on Foregoing.

In Senate April 19th 1782

¶ Read & thereupon Orderd that Joseph Dorr & Israel Nichols Esqr with such as the Honble House Shall join be a Committee to take this Petition into consideration & make report what is proper to be done thereon

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^{t}

Court General Session to Jedidiah Preble.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of Cumberland, begun & held at Falmouth for said County on the last Tuesday of March A. D. 1782 — ¶ The Court

requests the Honorable Jedidiah Preble Esq. to apply to the General Court to pass an Act for establishing an Inferior Court of Common Pleas and Court of General Sessions of the Peace for this County to be holden at Falmouth within said County on the last Tuesday of May annually, the first Term of said Courts to be on the last Tuesday of May next — and to have the Act for holding such Courts on the last Tuesday of March annually repeated —

Att Sam[l] Freeman Clerk

In Senate April 16th 1782

Read & thereupon Order'd that the Hon[ble] Jed[h] Preble Esq[r] have leave to bring in a Bill accordingly

Resolve in Favor County of York.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 19th 1782

Whereas it appears by [A] a Representation from the Representatives from the County of York that [B] County have raised nearly the whole Number of Men assigned them by a resolve of this Court of December 2[d] 1780, but that part of them were not procured untill after the 20th day of December last, and whereas it also Appears [C] that the delay in not raising a part of their Men until after the said 20th day of December; did not Arise from any Wilfull or Careless neglect, [D] but from the peculiar difficulties that County is under for want of Money as their Only Resours was fish and Lumber: which is now almost intirely Obstructed [E] Therefore Resolved that those Classes in the County of York who have procured their Men sence the 20th day of December last, Shall not be liable to any fine for not raising them before that time, and the Treasurer is hereby Directed to stay his Execution and if any is Issued to recall such Exe-

cution against any Constable or Collector in said County to whome any Assessment has been Committed in consequence of a deficiency of not raising said men on the said 20th day of December last, in all Instances where it shall Appear by a Receipt from the Superintendent that a good and Effective Man has ben procured any Resolve to the Contrary notwithstanding.

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 19 1782

Read & Concurred with Amendments at A C & D

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presidt

at A dele from A to B & insert the Returns of the Superintendent of the County of York that the said ¶ at C insert to this Court ¶ at D Dele from D to E & insert, Circumstances to which the said County has been reduced by the Capture of their Vessels & the Loss of their fish & Lumber Trade

In the House of Representatives April 20th 1782

Read and concurred

Nath Gorham Speaker

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve Requesting Colonel Badlam to Muster Troops Into Service.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 19th 1782

Whereas by a resolve of the General Court of 1st March last four places of Rendezvous were appointed for the 1500 men recruits for our quota of the Continental army but no officers appointed at the respective posts to muster said men

Resolved that Col Badlam be requested to appoint three deputy Muster Masters from amongst the officers of the Continental army, viz. one to reside at Springfield, one at Worcester & one at Wells in the County of York for the convenience of those Classes &c who may not chuse to come to his post at Boston to be mustered — and the respective Towns & Classes are hereby authorized & permitted to repair with their men to such post as is most convenient & the rects of such deputies shall discharge the Classes &c as fully as if mustered at Boston; and Col° Badlam is also requested to empower his deputies to certify upon application the Towns that may have furnished their quotas, in order that any deficient Class &c may have opp^y of inlisting from the Town that may have compleated its own quota; and ¶ the contractor for the Continental Army is requested to supply the several posts with sufficient rations upon Continental acc^t for said recruits.— ¶ And it is farther resolved that the Selectmen of Wells & Worcester be & hereby are empowered & directed to provide proper barracks for the reception of Twenty recruits each & lay their acc^ts before the General Court. ¶ And whereas the Barracks at Springfield are adequate to the reception of such recruits as may be mustered in that quarter but no provision is made for those immediately to be mustered at Boston by Col Badlam It is farther resolved that part of the Barracks at Castle William be & hereby are assigned for that purpose, & His Excellency the Governor is hereby requested to give Orders for their reception & accommodation therein as also for the necessary means of transportation for said recruits & their provisions ¶ And it is farther resolved that Col Badlam be requested to administer the oath of allegiance to such recruits as he shall personally muster & also to direct his deputies to make applications to some magistrate in their vicinity to administer in like manner said oath of allegiance to such recruits as they shall muster

¶ and it is farther resolved that Col Badlam be provided with a suitable office, & the Selectmen of the Towns where his deputies may reside (except Springfield where are public offices proper for the purpose) are directed to supply them with proper offices at the expence of this State ¶ and it is also resolved that Mr John Gill be requested to supply Col Badlam with the necessary blanks for himself & deputies, & print the necessary advertisements, & exhibit his acct to the General Court—

And whereas the resolve of 1st March last makes provision that if one or more persons in any Class or Classes shall procure a man or men such person shall have remedy against delinquents in their respective Classes until 10th day of April & no longer, But it may so happen that a person or persons may produce a man or men for their respective Classes before the return of Execution altho after the said 10th day of April—¶ It is farther resolved that any persons so hiring their man & haveing them mustered according to law previous to the return of execution, he or they shall have like remedy to all intents & purposes against delinquents in their respective classes, as is provided in Case of delinquency before the said 10th day of April, any law or resolve to the contrary notwithstanding

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

In Senate April 24th 1782

Read & Concurred as taken into a New Draft

Sent down for Concurrence

S Adams Presid^t

In the House of Representatives April 26, 1782

Read & concurred with amendments at A B C D

Sent up for concurrence

Nath Gorham Speaker

At A Dele "first" & insert, "tenth"

At B dele "fifth" and insert fifteenth

at C dele "tenth Day of May" and insert, "first Day of June.

at D dele, "twenty fifth Day of May" & insert, Sixteenth Day of June.

In Senate April 26th 1782

Read & concurred

S Adams Presidt

Approv'd John Hancock

Resolve That Genl Glover Appoint Muster Masters.

Whereas by a Resolve of this Court of the 7th of March, the towns of Boston Worcester Springfield & Wells were designated as the places of rendezvous at which the Continental Muster Master should reside, to receive the men which by said Resolve were order'd to be raised for the Continental Army, pursuant to a Resolution of Congress of the 18th of Decr last, and it is represented to this Court that only one such Muster Master has yet been appointed who is directed to reside at Boston; And Whereas it is absolutely necessary that the other appointments be immediately made, —Resolved that it be recommended to General Glover to immediately appoint a judicious faithful Officer to reside at each of the towns of Worcester Springfield & Wells to muster the recruits which shall be sent to those towns respectively, & to perform the duties which by the aforesaid Resolution of Congress of the 18th of December are required of such Officers; and to give the earliest notice of such appointments to his Excellency the Governor, who is hereby requested immediately thereupon to give information to the Commander in chief of the muster masters who are acting in this Com-

monwealth, of the manner of their appointment, & the reason therefore, with a Request that such appointment may as soon as possible be approved or superseeded as he shall judge best.

Resolve Relating to Muster Masters.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the House of Representatives April 19 1782

Resolved further, That the Selectmen of the Towns of Worcester & Wells procure sufficient Provisions and quarters (if not otherwise provided) for such men as shall be received in their respective Towns by the Muster-Masters aforesaid, and exhibit their Accounts of the Charges arising therefor with proper Vouchers, to the General Court, in order for allowance — And that his Excellency the Governor be requested to give orders that the men mustered at Boston may be transported & received into the Barracks at Castle William — ¶ Resolved further, that the oath of Allegiance be administered to each Recruit, by the respective Muster Masters aforesaid who are hereby impowered to administer the same, or by some Magistrate in the vicinity of the place of Rendezvous, where such Recruit shall be mustered. ¶ Whereas on account of delay in the appointment of Muster Masters as aforementioned, it is requisite that the time, allowed by the Resolutions aforesaid for procuring the men, should be prolonged: Therefore ¶ Resolved, That the time for procuring men agreeable to the Resolutions aforesaid be, and hereby is, lengthened and prolonged to the first [A] day of May next; after the expiration of which time, every Class, which shall have neglected to procure and deliver a man to the Muster Master to serve for the term of three years, or during the War, shall be subjected to the same penalty and proceeded with in the same manner, as Classes, which were deficient

after the tenth day of April would have been subjected to; and proceeded with, in case this Resolution had not passed. Provided, that the time for making Returns into the Secretary's office, of deficient Classes shall be extended to the fifth [B] day of May next — the time for committing the assessments upon deficient Classes to the Collectors shall be extended to the tenth [C] day of May next and the time for issuing Executions against delinquent Collectors shall be extended to the twenty [D] fifth day of May next — And it is further Resolved That any Person or Persons who shall procure their men and have them mustered previous to the Return of Execution, he or they shall have like Remedy against Delinquents in their respective Classes to all Intents & Purposes, as is provided in the said Resolve of the 7th of March last in case of Delinquency before the 10th day of April Instant

Selectmen of Coxhall to General Court.

Coxhall Aprill ye 20th 1782

to the Honourable Grate and general Court for the Commonwealth of the Massachusetts

these few Lines Comes to your Honours to inform you of a few of ye many Difficulties this Town Labours under 1st it is New and the People Very Pore 2nd Providence by the Drouth Cut off our Crops of Corn and Grain so that the more then one half of the People are out of Corn and the others all most out So that we Cannot help one another and nothing but money will Purchis Corn abrod and None we Can git for Lumber will Not fetch money at Present and we are allmost Ready to Cry out under the burden of our taxes as the Children of Israel did in Egypt when they were Required to make Brick without Straw If your Honours or the treasury can make Any turne of such Lumber as we Can git which is

Cheeftly white Oak Reft Lumber and take it for our taxes we are willing to Pay them and otherwise we beg the favour of Execution being Stayed till such times as Lumber will fetch money that we may pay them for we cannot find that there is money enough in ye town to pay ye Charge for one Execution if it Comes to no more at Present we ly at your masey under ye Protection of ye Grate Creation of all things in behalf of the town of Coxhall we Remain your Humble Servant —

Joshua Ricker
James Lord } Selectmen
Ezra Kimball

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